Description	**Precipitating polyclonal rabbit antiserum to rat immunoglobulins, IgG, IgA and IgM, heavy and light chains**
Product code	RARa/Ig
Biological origin	Rabbit
Physical form	Delipidated, heat inactivated, lyophilized stable whole serum
Preservative	No preservative added, as it may interfere with the antibody activity. No foreign protein added.
Immunogen	Purified polyclonal IgG, including all subclasses and pools of homogenous IgA and IgM isolated from rat serum. Freund's complete adjuvant is used in the first step of the immunization procedure.
Adsorption	Immunoaffinity adsorbed using insolubilized antigens as required to eliminate antibody activity with other serum protein. The use of insolubilized adsorption antigens prevents the presence of excess adsorbent protein or immune complexes in the antiserum.
Identity & Specificity	The reactivity of the antiserum is directed to the major isotypes of the rat immunoglobulin system (classes and both light chain types) including antibodies to common determinants, to class and to the surface determinants of the common Fab portion, as tested by immunoelectrophoresis and double radial immunodiffusion against pooled serum and purified immunoglobulins.
Cross-reactivity	Inter-species cross-reactivity is a normal feature of antibodies to immunoglobulins, since Ig of different species frequently share antigenic determinants. Cross-reactivity of this antiserum has not been tested in detail.
Protein concentration	Total protein and IgG concentration in the antiserum are comparable to those of pooled rabbit serum. No foreign proteins added.
Antibody titre	Precipitin titre not less than 1:64 when tested against normal rat serum in agar block titration.
Intended use	In precipitating techniques as immunoelectrophoresis, single and double radial immunodiffusion (Mancini, Ouchterlony) to identify and measure immunoglobulins; as secondary antibody to precipitate the immunoglobulin in normal rat serum. This antiserum is not intended for use in non-precipitating antibody-binding or other highly sensitive assays. For such uses labelled and unlabelled cytochemical and immunoassay grade reagents meeting the necessary additional specificity and performance requirements are available.
Directions for use	In immunoelectrophoresis use 2 μl or equivalent against 120 μl antiserum. In double radial immunodiffusion use a rosette arrangement with 10 μl antiserum in a 3 mm diameter centre well and 2 μl serum samples (neat and diluted) in 2 mm diameter peripheral wells.
Handling	The lyophilized antiserum is shipped at ambient temperature and may be stored at +4°C; prolonged storage at or below -20°C. It is reconstituted by adding 1 ml sterile distilled water. Working dilutions are prepared by adding sterile phosphate buffered saline (PBS, pH 7.2). Repeated thawing and freezing should be avoided. Working dilutions should be stored at +4°C, not refrozen, and preferably used the same day. If a slight precipitation occurs upon storage, this should be removed by centrifugation. It will not affect the performance of the product.
Packing	Vial with 1 ml lyophilized antiserum.
Storage / shelf life	Lyophilized at +4°C — at least 10 years reconstituted at or below -20°C — 3-5 years reconstituted at +4°C — 7 days
Caution	This antiserum should be handled by qualified persons only and appropriate precautions should be taken in its handling and disposal, and of all associated materials. For *in vitro* laboratory research purposes only.

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