Description	**Precipitating polyclonal rabbit antiserum to swine fibrinogen**
Product code	RASw/Fbg
Biological origin	rabbit
Physical form	Delipidated, heat inactivated, lyophilized, stable whole antiserum
Preservative	No preservative added
Immunogen	Fibrinogen (clotting factor I) is a heat labile beta glycoprotein (molecular weight 340,000) and consists of three pairs of chains bound by disulphide bonds. It is synthesized in hepatocytes under genetic control. It is the precursor of fibrin, which is the key protein constituting the network of the blood clot. Thrombin converts fibrinogen to fibrin by limited proteolysis, releasing the fibrinopeptides A and B (molecular weight 50,000-65,000) and forming fibrin monomers. Fibrin monomers polymerize to fibrin which is stabilized by cross-linking under the influence of factor XIII. The predominant gamma chain of normal fibrinogen (MW 50,000, with higher variants) has a low affinity for platelet binding. Fibrinogen is isolated from fresh plasma after removing prothrombin. Freund's complete adjuvant is used in the first step of the immunization procedure.
Adsorption	Immunoaffinity adsorbed using insolubilized antigens as required, to eliminate antibodies reacting with other plasma proteins. 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 restricted to fibrinogen. In immunoelectrophoresis and radial immunodiffusion (Ouchterlony), using various antiserum concentrations against fresh normal swine plasma a single precipitin line is obtained which shows a reaction of identity with the precipitin line obtained with purified fibrinogen. No reaction is obtained with any other plasma protein component or serum. However, the antiserum may also react with fibrin monomers, circulating fibrinopeptides and fibrin degradation products.
Cross-reactivity	The antiserum does not cross react with any other component of swine plasma. Inter-species cross-reactivity is a normal feature of antibodies to plasma proteins since they frequently share antigenic determinants. Cross-reactivity of this antiserum has not been tested in detail.
Protein concentration	Total protein and IgG concentrations in the antiserum are comparable to those of pooled normal rabbit serum. No foreign proteins added.
Antibody titre	Precipitin titre 1:64 when tested against pooled normal swine plasma in agar-block immuno-diffusion titration.
Intended use	In precipitating techniques as immunoelectrophoresis and single or double radial immunodiffusion to identify the presence of fibrinogen in swine plasma or other body fluids or to determine its concentration.
Directions for use	The lyophilized antiserum is shipped at ambient temperature and may be stored at +4°C; prolonged storage at or below -20°C. Reconstitute the lyophilized antiserum by adding 1 ml sterile distilled water. Dilutions may be prepared by adding phosphate buffered saline (PBS, pH 7.2). Repeated thawing and freezing should be avoided. If a slight precipitation occurs upon storage, this should be removed by centrifugation. It will not affect the performance of the antiserum. Diluted antiserum should be stored at +4°C, not refrozen, and preferably used the same day.
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* research purposes only.

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