Schematic representation of an Antigen-Antibody-Reaction:

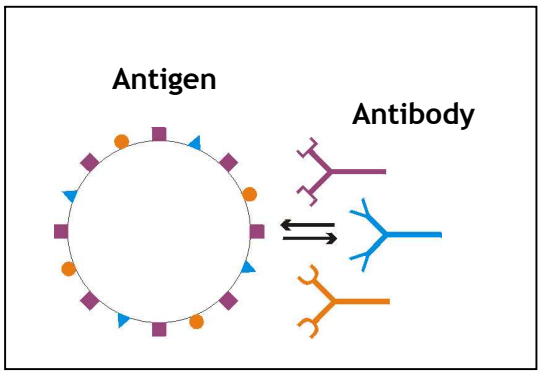

fig. a

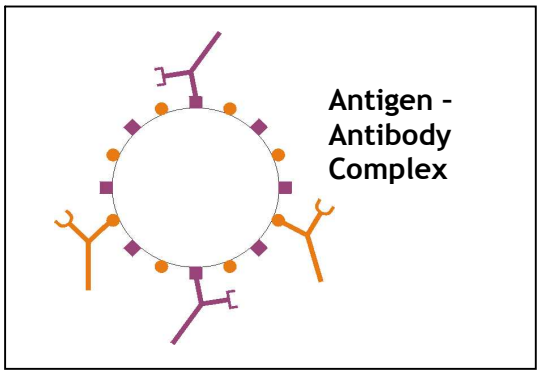

fig. b

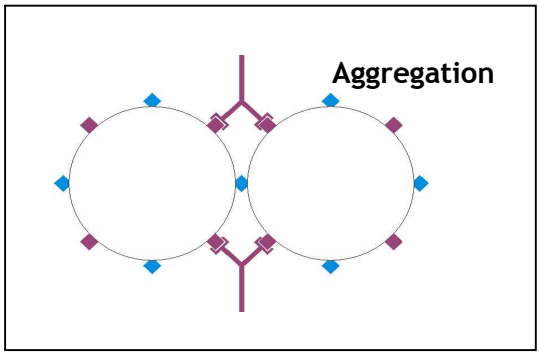

fig. c

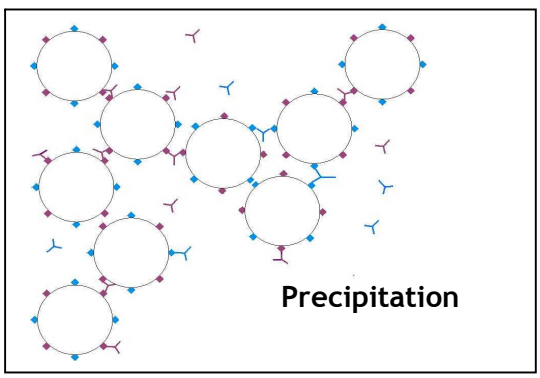

fig. d

So that a networking reaction can expire, the particles contained in the samplefluid must have a binding place for at least two antibodies and can function therefore as an antigen.

Figure a to d illustrate schematically that body strange materials or particles, for example bacteria, viruses, toxins, function as antigens, when they react with an antibody after the "Key-Lock-Principle" (fig. b).

A bivalent antibody, like for example an IgG-antibody, binds at the same time two antigens (fig. c).

Because each antigen can bind several antibodies, a networking results herewith (Precipitation) (Fig. d).

For antibody with higher valence, a precipitation results in an analogical manner. If the related antigen got a higher amount of antibody binding places, this offers the advantage that in this manner the flow of a networking reaction better can be guaranteed.