immunoglobulin (Ig)

A protein of the globulin-type found in serum or other body fluids that possesses antibody activity. An individual Ig molecule is built up from two light (L) and two heavy (H) polypeptide chains linked together by disulfide bonds. Igs are divided into five classes based on antigenic and structural differences in the H chains.

Source:

PAC, 1992, 64, 143 (Glossary for chemists of terms used in biotechnology (IUPAC Recommendations 1992)) on page 157