

29<sup>th</sup> November 2021

### **Emerging SARS- CoV-2 Variants - Omicron (B.1.1.529)**

Healgen Scientific, as part of its continuous COVID-19 variant monitoring plan, is actively monitoring the newly identified COVID-19 strain, named Omicron. As you may be aware several SARS-CoV-2 variants have emerged globally during this pandemic.

The scientific community has determined that Omicron (B.1.1.529) is located in the spike protein of the virus. Healgen's Rapid COVID-19 antigen test detects the nucleocapsid protein which is contained within the cell wall (envelope).

We are confident that our test should be able to detect the Omicron variant, due to the location of where the mutation occurs<sup>1,2</sup>.

The scientific community is working diligently and expeditiously to understand this new variant's behavior. Healgen Scientific will continue to closely follow any developments.

Should you have any questions concerning the subject matter, please contact us at [quality@healgen.us](mailto:quality@healgen.us).

1. Classification of Omicron (B1.1.529): Variant of Concern (26<sup>th</sup> November 2021) – W.H.O.
2. Update on Omicron (28<sup>th</sup> November 2021) – W.H.O.