

*BTNX issued the following statement in response to Global News' stories that appeared Dec. 21, 2023 about its rapid antigen tests and the company.*

BTNX is dismayed that Global News is denigrating the efficacy of its Rapid Antigen Tests through inaccurate and misleading reporting. Global News ignored data provided to them by BTNX over a period of several months.

“BTNX provided Global News with clear evidence, including independent scientific studies, that demonstrate its Rapid Antigen Tests are safe and effective,” said company CEO Iqbal Sunderani. “Global News ignored that evidence.”

The Study that Global News cited was NOT Relied on by Health Canada: The studies that WERE relied upon by Health Canada to evaluate BTNX's Rapid Antigen Tests were conducted at 10 clinical sites in the United States and the results of those studies were overwhelmingly positive.

Regarding Global News' allegation that the data in the “edited” study was incomplete, BTNX's tests were approved for use within 6 days of symptom onset. The original study included data for samples taken up to 31 days after symptom onset, and ALL relevant data was submitted in accordance with industry standards. Further, the original study included data for frozen samples. BTNX's tests were only intended to be used on fresh samples per Health Canada and US FDA recommendations, and ALL relevant data was submitted in accordance with industry standards.

Efficacy of Rapid Antigen Tests: The efficacy of BTNX's Rapid Antigen Tests was established by studies that were conducted according to Health Canada and US FDA requirements.

BTNX provided Global News with nine known clinical and third-party studies conducted on our Rapid Antigen Tests that were based on over 1,000 samples. The German study that Global News isolated was conducted by the Paul-Ehrlich-Institut on only 50 samples. The authors of the Paul-Ehrlich-Institut study admitted that its results are “not directly comparable to those of clinical specimens in other studies...” because of their reliance on frozen samples and storage techniques.

In short, Global News ignored scientific evidence to paint a false picture of BTNX and the safety of its Rapid Antigen Tests to Canadians. Global News even chose to publish a photograph of BTNX's former facility, which has been empty for over a year, despite visiting its current facility in an attempt to depict BTNX and its products in a negative light.

“BTNX is a recognized world leader in providing Rapid Antigen Tests used in 70 countries around the world,” Sunderani added. “Our company has complied with regulatory requirements and has always been transparent with Health Canada.”

Global News' publication of these stories risks undermining public confidence in reliable, proven tests just when they are needed most, risking harm to public health. BTNX intends to defend itself vigorously against these false and defamatory statements.