Self-Assessment Test of Smell and Taste

Welcome to taste and smell tracking website. Following a wave of reports about rapid onset of smell loss, health organizations throughout the world have recognized loss of smell and taste as a marker for the COVID-19, even in the absence of other symptoms. Smell and taste loss have been added to the list of biomarkers for early detection of COVID-19 recently by WHO, ICMR-India, CDC, USA and many such health institutes. [1,2,3,4,5,6]

We are conducting a smell and taste survey in which we ask you to smell and taste some readily available home items and report the sensitivity on the website. Through this web app we also strongly encourage you to report any changes in sense of smell and taste along with any future COVID-19 testing and results. It will be help us in determining that if smell and taste sensitivity can identify asymptomatic carriers. We will also be able to determine a cut-off for smell and taste sensitivity that indicates likely infection.

Reference links

- 1. GCCR (2020) More than just smell COVID-19 is associated with severe impairment of smell, taste, and chemesthesis.
- 2. Coincidence of COVID-19 epidemic and olfactory dysfunction outbreak.
- 3. <u>Isolated sudden onset anosmia in COVID-19 infection. A novel syndrome?.</u>
- 4. <u>Olfactory and Taste Disorders in Patients With Severe Acute Respiratory Coronavirus 2 Infection:</u> A Cross-sectional Study.
- 5. ICMR expands coronavirus symptoms list; includes loss of taste and smell, muscle pain, diarrhoea.
- 6. New loss of taste or smell.

Frequently Asked Questions??

What is this test?

In this test we ask you to smell and taste some house-hold items over a period of next three months preferably every week. We are conducting this survey to ascertain if loss of smell and taste can be used as a bioindicator for asymptomatic COVID-19 carriers. It will also let us understand the cut-off for smell and taste sensitivity for carriers.

Who can take this test?

Anyone above 18 and having no prior allergy to some food items can take this test.

How will you use my data?

This is a research study and we will take the utmost care to protect the privacy of the participant and data.

Is there any cost to participation?

No, this is free of cost.

What are the main items used for the test?

These are some common household items e.g. lemon, mint, cumin, ghee, dhaniya, red-chilli, salt, sugar, vicks etc. There are multiple choices for the same categories of smell and taste. You can skip the individual tests or entire section, guit at any point of the test.

This app does not intend to replace any medical diagnosis. Please consult your doctor if you are experiencing any symptoms outlined here at <u>WHO website</u>

Would you like to test your smell and taste?

Do the Smell & Taste-Check!

You must be 18 years	old or older	in order to	participate.
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You can take the Smell-&-Taste-Check as often as you like. We would like to encourage you to participate **approximately weekly** during the next 3 months.

Participation is voluntary and data is collected in pseudonymized fashion.

The ability to smell, taste and the sensitivity to irritation in the mouth and nose can be impaired for various reasons - e.g. in respiratory diseases by cold viruses and also by the new corona virus (SARS-CoV2; CoViD-19) or even by completely different diseases.

We would like to investigate how these senses fluctuate over time. The results will help to assess whether the senses are more or less affected in COVID-19 than in other diseases and healthy people.

Please read the <u>information sheet on the study</u> carefully. Among other things, it contains important information on data protection.

	I have read and understood the information sheet, I am over 18 years old, and I voluntarily
par	ticipate.

Tell us a bit about yourself

Let's start with a few questions about you and your health.

Required questions are indicated with an asterisk *.

*In which year were you born?

Mark only one oval. ○ 2003 ○ 1982 ○ 1961 ○ 1940 ○ 1919 ○ 2002 ○ 1981 ○ 1960 ○ 1939 ○ 1918 ○ 2001 ○ 1980 ○ 1959 ○ 1938 ○ 1917 ○ 2000 ○ 1979 ○ 1958 ○ 1937 ○ 1916 \bigcirc 1999 \bigcirc 1978 \bigcirc 1957 \bigcirc 1936 \bigcirc 1915 ○ 1998 ○ 1977 ○ 1956 ○ 1935 ○ 1914 ○ 1996 ○ 1975 ○ 1954 ○ 1933 ○ 1912 ○ 1995 ○ 1974 ○ 1953 ○ 1932 ○ 1911 \bigcirc 1994 \bigcirc 1973 \bigcirc 1952 \bigcirc 1931 \bigcirc 1910 ○ 1993 ○ 1972 ○ 1951 ○ 1930 ○ 1909 \bigcirc 1992 \bigcirc 1971 \bigcirc 1950 \bigcirc 1929 \bigcirc 1908 ○ 1991 ○ 1970 ○ 1949 ○ 1928 ○ 1907 ○ 1990 ○ 1969 ○ 1948 ○ 1927 ○ 1906 ○ 1989 ○ 1968 ○ 1947 ○ 1926 ○ 1905 \bigcirc 1945 \bigcirc 1924 \bigcirc 1903 1943 1922 1901 **1984** 1963 1942 1941 **1920**

*Which gender do you most identify with?

○ Female
O Another gender not listed here
O Prefer not to say

Mark only one oval.

The following question pops up if 2nd or 3rd option is selected

Brunei

*Are you currently pregnant? Mark only one oval. Yes \bigcirc No *What is your current country of residence? Mark only one oval. () India ○ Germany Oman Afghanistan Pakistan () Ghana Albania () Greece () Palau Grenada Palestine State Algeria Andorra ○ Guatemala Panama Angola Guinea Papua New Guinea Antigua and Barbuda () Guinea-Bissau Paraguay Argentina Guyana O Peru Armenia ○ Haiti O Philippines Australia ○ Holy See Poland Austria Honduras Portugal Azerbaijan () Qatar Hungary Bahamas Iceland Romania Bahrain Indonesia Russia Bangladesh () Iran Rwanda Barbados () Iraq Saint Kitts and Nevis Belarus () Ireland Saint Lucia Saint Vincent and the () Israel Grenadines Belgium Belize () Italy Samoa () Benin Jamaica San Marino Bhutan Sao Tome and Principe Japan Jordan Saudi Arabia () Bolivia Bosnia and Herzegovina Senegal Kazakhstan Botswana Serbia Kenya () Brazil Seychelles

Sierra Leone

○ Bulgaria	○ Kyrgyzstan	Singapore
O Burkina Faso	○ Laos	Slovakia
○ Burundi	○ Latvia	○ Slovenia
○ Côte d'Ivoire	○ Lebanon	○ Solomon Islands
○ Cabo Verde	○ Lesotho	○ Somalia
○ Cambodia	○ Liberia	O South Africa
○ Cameroon	○ Libya	○ South Korea
○ Canada	○ Liechtenstein	○ South Sudan
Central African Republic	○ Lithuania	Spain
○ Chad	○ Luxembourg	○ Sri Lanka
○ Chile	○ Madagascar	Sudan
○ China	○ Malawi	Suriname
○ Colombia	○ Malaysia	Sweden
○ Comoros		○ Switzerland
○ Congo (Congo-Brazzaville)		Syria
○ Costa Rica		○ Tajikistan
○ Croatia		○ Tanzania
○ Cuba	○ Mauritania	○ Thailand
○ Cyprus	○ Mauritius	○ Timor-Leste
Czechia (Czech Republic)	○ Mexico	○ Togo
O Democratic Republic of the		
Congo	○ Micronesia	○ Tonga
○ Denmark	○ Moldova	Trinidad and Tobago
○ Djibouti	○ Monaco	○ Tunisia
○ Dominica	○ Mongolia	○ Turkey
O Dominican Republic	○ Montenegro	○ Turkmenistan
○ Ecuador	○ Morocco	○ Tuvalu
○ Egypt	○ Mozambique	○ Uganda
	Myanmar (formerly	
○ El Salvador	Burma)	○ Ukraine
Equatorial Guinea	○ Namibia	United Arab Emirates
○ Eritrea	○ Nauru	O United Kingdom
○ Estonia	○ Nepal	United States of America
○ Eswatini (fmr. "Swaziland")	○ Netherlands	Uruguay
○ Ethiopia	○ New Zealand	○ Uzbekistan
○ Fiji	○ Nicaragua	○ Vanuatu
○ Finland	○Niger	○ Venezuela
○ France	○ Nigeria	○ Vietnam
Gabon	○ North Korea	○ Yemen
Gambia	North Macedonia	○ Zambia
○ Georgia	Norway	○ Zimbabwe

What state, city, or town do you live in?	
Enter state, city, town here	
What is your zip / postal code?	
Enter zip code here	
*What is your highest level of formal education? E.g. school, vocationa training, university, etc.	
Mark only one oval. No formal education 10th 12th Bachelors Masters or above	
*How many contacts do you have every day outside of your household? E.g. through work, public transport, etc.	
Mark only one oval. ○ none ○ <5 ○ 5-10 ○ 11-20 ○ 21-50 ○ >50	
*Have you been diagnosed with or suspected you had a respiratory illness in the past 14 days? (e.g COVID-19, flu, cold, etc)	
Mark only one oval. ○ Yes ○ No	
*Have you been diagnosed with COVID-19, in the past 14 days?	

Mark only one oval.

 No-do not have any symptoms Yes-diagnosed by medical symptoms only Yes-diagnosed with viral swab Yes-diagnosed with another lab test Unknown-I was tested but did not get my results No-not diagnosed, but have symptoms No-had a negative test, but still have symptoms 				
When date did you first notice symptoms of your COVID illness? Provide your best guess or leave blank if you do not remember.				
Click here to select date				
< August 2021 >				
S M T W T F S				
1 2 3 4 5 6 7				
8 9 10 11 12 13 14				
15 16 17 18 19 20 21				
22 23 24 25 26 27 28				
29 30 31				
CANCEL OK				
*Have you been diagnosed with or suspected with any other respiratory illness (not COVID-19)?				
 Bacterial illness (e.g, strep throat) Viral illness (e.g, flu/common cold) Other respiratory illness I don't know None of the above 				

When date did you first notice symptoms of your other respiratory illness? Provide your best guess or leave blank if you do not remember.

Click here to select date

< August 2021 >	
S M T W T F S	
1 2 3 4 5 6 7	
8 9 10 11 12 13 14	
15 16 17 18 19 20 21	
22 23 24 (25) 26 27 28	
29 30 31	
CANCEL OK	
*In the past 14 days . have you	had any of the following symptoms?
,	
○ Fever	O Loss of appetite
O Dry Cough	○ Headache
Cough with mucus	Body aches
Difficulty breathing/shortness of	<u> </u>
breath	○ Fatigue
Chest tightness	○ Diarrhea
Running nose	○ Abdominal pain
Sore throat	○ Nausea
Changes in food flavour	Skin sensitivity
Changes in smell	Ory mouth
Changes in taste	○ No symptoms
Changes in taste	O No symptoms
* Have you experienced any ch	anges of smell in the past 14 days?
nave you experienced any en	unges of sinen in the past 14 days.
Mark only one oval.	
Slight	
○ Moderate	
○ Complete Loss	
○ None	
None	
* Have you experienced any cha	anges to any of the specific taste in the past 14
days?	inges to any or the specime taste in the past 14
uays:	
Curat	
Sweet	
Sour	
Salty	
Bitter	

 $\bigcirc \, \mathsf{None} \,$

*Have you ever been a regular smoker, e-cigarette user, or vaper, in your life?			
Mark only one oval. ○ Yes-former smoker ○ Yes-current smoker ○ No ○ Prefer not to say			
In the last 6 months, have you had any of the following?			
 ☐ High blood pressure ☐ Heart diseases (heart attack) ☐ Diabetes (high blood sugar) ☐ Obesity ☐ Lung diseases (asthma/COPD) ☐ Head trauma ☐ Neurological diseases ☐ Cancer that required chemotherapy or radiation 	 Chronic sinus problems Smell disorder (e.g, hyposmia/anosmia Taste disorder (e.g, dysgeusia) Seasonal allergies/hay fever Dry mouth Other None 		



Thank you!

Get ready for the Smell & Taste Check!

Important notice!! Please pay attention

In 4 short parts, you can measure your sense of smell and taste and other sensations in your nose and mouth. It should be done at home because you will smell and taste 7 different items in your household. It will take approximately 10-15 minutes.

Preparations: Try to avoid distracting smells like scented lotions or perfumes. Perform the check in a room with minimal smells - like those from air fresheners, cigarette smoke, or cooking. Do not smoke, eat or drink anything (other than drinking water) for at least 30 min prior.

Attention:

This assessment does not replace medical testing, and it does not provide a medical diagnosis. Please do not take any specific action, medical or otherwise, based on the results of this self-assessment.

Do not use any items you might have an allergy or sensitivity to. If you suffer from a medical condition such as asthma that makes it hard for you to sniff several odors in succession, you may skip the odor section. Please skip if you are unsure whether your medical condition allows you to participate.

You may skip items. But we would like to encourage you be consistent throughout repeated checks.





Part 1: Smell

You will need 7 of the odor items listed on the next page. If possible, please try them at room temperature, and in a state where they are most intense.

For example, an unpeeled banana, apple will not smell very strongly. Peeling, slicing, or crushing items may help release their smell

* Required selection of ingredient

From each of the 7 groups below, please select and gather one item that is normally found in your household.

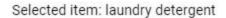
Select those items that will be available over the coming weeks. If you repeat the check, **please try not to switch items.**

If you suffer from a medical condition such as asthma that makes it hard for you to sniff several odors in succession, you may skip the odor section.

I would like to skip the smell/odor section.

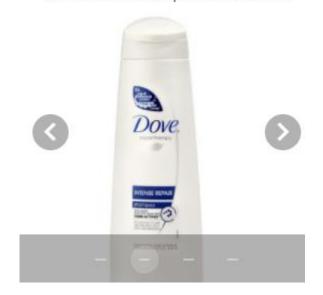
Choose available items below. Once done, press NEXT to start with odor/smell test.

*scented cosmetics or detergents:





Selected item: shampoo or conditioner



Selected item: scented soap

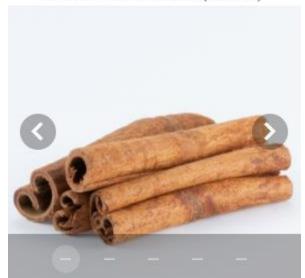


Selected item: None of above is available



*spices, herbs or food ingredients1

Selected item: Cinnamon(Dalchini)



Selected item: Clove(lavang)



Selected item: Cardamom (Elaichi)



Selected item: Nutmeg(jaifal)

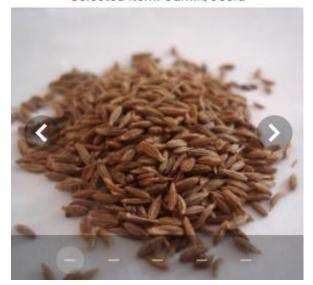


Selected item: None of above is available

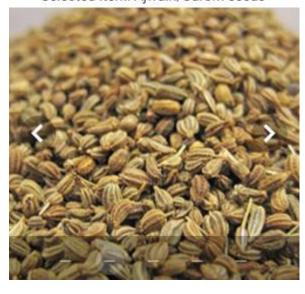


*spices, herbs or food ingredients2

Selected item: Cumin/Jeera



Selected item: Ajwain/Carom seeds



Selected item: Fennel/Saunf



Selected item: Coriander seeds/Dhania



Selected item: None of above is available



*spice mixtures

Selected item: Garam/Goda masala



Selected item: Sambhar/Rasam/Puliyogare powder



Selected item: Biryani/Fish/Chicken/Meat masala



Selected item: Maggi masala



Selected item: Panch phoron

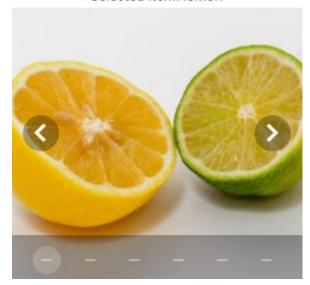


Selected item: None of above is available



*fruits, fruit juice or vegetables

Selected item: lemon

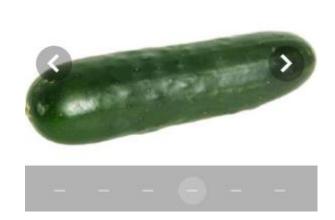


Selected item: banana



Selected item: apple

Selected item: cucumber



Selected item: tomato



Selected item: None of above is available



*Dairy items:

Selected item: Milk



Selected item: Ghee



Selected item: Butter

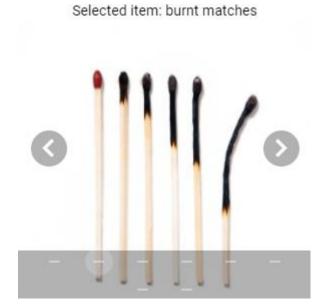


Selected item: None of above is available



Selected item: coffee

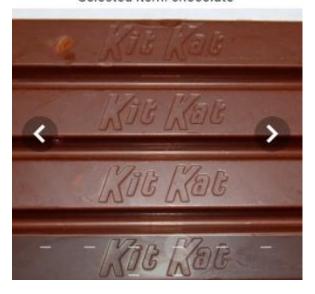




Selected item: cigarette butts or ashtray



Selected item: chocolate



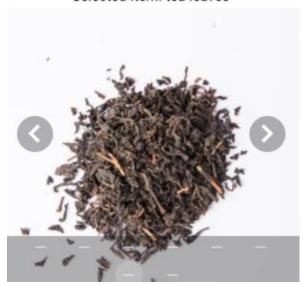
Selected item: crushed grass/leaves



Selected item: wet soil



Selected item: tea leaves



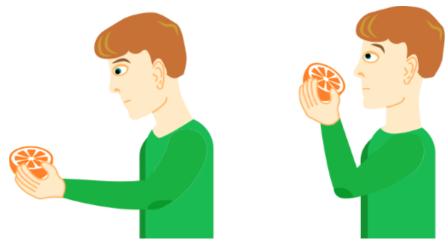
Selected item: None of above is available



Part 1 of 4: Smell

* Required question

To smell, bring the objects selected earlier to your nose one by one and sniff normally 1-3 times. Here you can see how it's done.



Once you are done sniffing, rate the smell intensity below (If you cannot smell the item at all, please move the slider all of the way to the left.)

*Rate the smell for Cinnamon(Dalchini).

No sensation

*Rate the smell for Coriander seeds/Dhania.

Very intense

*Rate the smell for Panch phoron.

Very intense

*Rate the smell for Butter.

No sensation

*Rate the smell for tea leaves.

Very intense

Very intense

Very intense





Part 2: Other sensations in your nose.

Part 2 of 4: Other sensations in your nose

* Required question

Please select and gather 1 item from the list below. You will be asked to smell it and rate the intensity of the cooling, tickling, stinging, or burning sensation.

*Please select and gather 1 of the following items:

Selected item: Holy basil



Selected item: Mustard



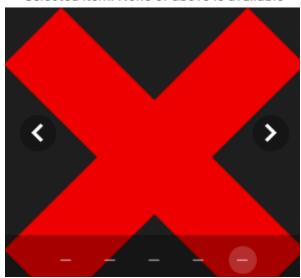
Selected item: Mint leaves



Selected item: Vicks Vaporub or Camphor



Selected item: None of above is available



To smell, bring the item to your nose and sniff normally 1-3 times.

Once you are done sniffing, rate the **cooling, tickling, burning or stinging sensation** below (If you cannot smell the item at all, please move the slider all of the way to the left.)

*Rate the smell for the object selected above.

No sensation Very intense





Part 3: Taste (sweet, sour, salty, bitter)

Part 3 of 4: Taste (sweet, sour, salty, bitter)

Please select and gather 4 items from the list below. You will be asked to taste them and rate the intensity of the taste.

Please gather the following four items:

*Sweet:





Selected item: Sweetener



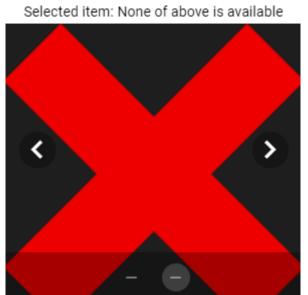
Selected item: None of above is available



*Salty:

Click button on left and right to browse through ingredients





*Sour:

Selected item: lemon juice



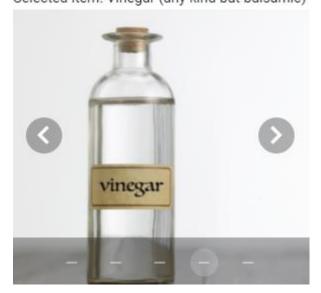
Selected item: Tamarind



Selected item: Kokam



Selected item: Vinegar (any kind but balsamic)



Selected item: None of above is available



*Bitter:

Selected item: black or green tea leaves/grains/dust from tea bags

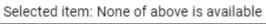


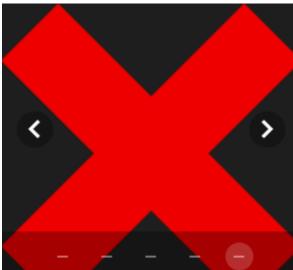
Selected item: Coffee (beans, grounds, instant powder)











Please also gather a teaspoon and a glass of water. Once gathered, please press NEXT

Part 3 of 4: Taste (sweet, sour, salty, bitter)

Take a small sip of water and rinse your mouth.

Then, put a little less than a ¼ teaspoon of black or green tea leaves/grains/dust from tea bags on your tongue, close your mouth and move it around in your mouth.

*Rate the **bitter taste** intensity

No sensation Very intense





Part 4: Other sensations in your mouth

For example, burning from chili, cooling from mint, or tingling from carbonated beverages.

Part 4 of 4: Other sensations in your mouth

Please select and gather 1 item from the list below. You will be asked to place it in your mouth and rate the intensity of the cooling, tickling, stinging, or burning sensation.

Please select and gather 1 of the following items:

Selected item: hot mustard

Selected item: chili pepper (fresh / ground / dried)



Selected item: Black Pepper



Selected item: ENO (normal sip)



Selected item: mint leaves







*Rate the cooling, tickling, burning or stinging sensation.

No sensation Very intense

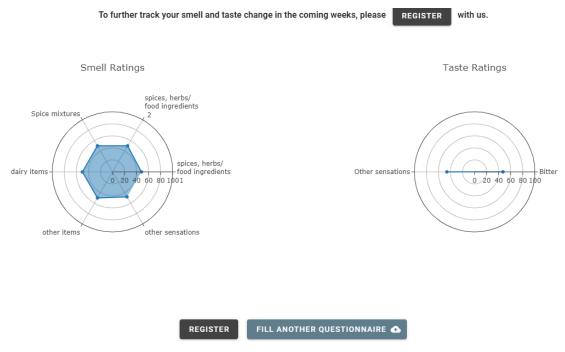
Thank you for taking the smell and taste survey. We strongly recommend you to the report any change in smell and taste along with COVID status on this website.

Please submit your response now.



Results

Your responses indicate that you are experiencing notable taste change in the past 2 weeks. It is observed that there is a reduced sense of smell or taste in approximately 30-60% of COVID-19 cases even in the absence of other typical symptoms. It is strongly recommended that you consider self-quarantine along with continued monitoring of taste and smell loss on this website.



This app does not intend to replace any medical diagnosis. Please consult your doctor if you are experiencing any symptoms outlined at the <u>WHO website</u>

It is strongly encouraged to report any changes in sense of smell and taste along with any future COVID-19 testing and results on this website. It will be help us in determining that if smell and taste sensitivity can identify asymptomatic carriers. We will also be able to determine a cut-off for smell and taste sensitivity that indicates likely infection.