Brigham and Women's Hospital COVID-19 Smell and Taste Dysfunction Study

The latest in research updates, news, and milestones



CSD: chemosensory dysfunction; COVID19: coronavirus disease 2019; Wave 1: February 2020-December 2020 COVID19 infections; Wave 2: January 2021-May 2021 COVID19 infections; Wave 3: June 2021-November 2021 COVID19 infections; Wave 4: December 2021-December 2022 COVID19 infections; UPSIT: University of Pennsylvania smell identification test; BWETT: brief waterless empirical taste test; P: probability value

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Publication Alert!

With great excitement, we announce our first paper "Determinants of Persistence and Recovery of Chronic COVID-19 Chemosensory Dysfunction" is published in the *Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology*, jacionline.org/article/S0091-6749(24)00913-8.

On behalf of our research team, we would like to thank you for your participation in the study entitled: "Clinical characteristics of post-COVID anosmia."

Upon enrollment, you answered a series of questionnaires. Over the course of 1-year after each of your individual enrollments, you responded to follow-up surveys at 3-, 6-, and 12-months. We have been mindfully analyzing your responses and data entries to provide insight into this new chemosensory dysfunction syndrome. The data collected from 408 survey participants and 108 in-person participants during August 2021 – December 2023 taught us new and exciting information about the COVID-19 chemosensory experience that we share with you today.



Founding member, Mass General Brigham

To learn more visit us online, <u>bankovalab.bwh.harvard.edu.</u>

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What's next?

COVID-19 chemosensory dysfunction is a complicated condition to test and treat. Our mission is to continue to advance our understanding of this condition and how it impacts your lives and the people around you.

As many of you know, we have an in-person study at the Hale Building for Transformative Medicine on the Brigham and Women's Hospital main campus in Boston, Massachusetts to understand the mechanism of COVID-19 chemosensory dysfunction and hear your unique stories about post-COVID-19 symptoms or your path to long-awaited recovery.

If you are interested in participating or learning more, you can find us on the Massachusetts General Brigham Rally platform:

rally.massgeneralbrigham.org/study/covid_anosmia.

Our study was awarded federal funding through the NIH on July 1, 2024.

We are excited to announce that our mechanistic study has now received federal funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH): <u>reporter.nih.gov</u>, after previous support from the Harvard Catalyst Five Senses: Input and Response and hospital funding support.

We are grateful for the grants to sustain such necessary research into this prevalent and unique condition.





Thank you!

Our studies are made possible by your generous time and incredible contributions. You are helping to shed light on the complexity and severity of COVID-19 chemosensory dysfunction to bring about better care and transform treatment for chemosensory-affected people like yourself and the people you love most. Thank you!



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Members of the team have been busy presenting this work and developing new collaborations at the following meetings:

Dante's abstract "Clinical Characteristics and Long-Term Symptomology of Post-COVID-19 Olfactory Dysfunction" was selected for an oral presentation for the session: New Developments in Clinical Medicine at the 2024 Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology.



Lora presented our preliminary data on the biological mechanisms of COVID-19 chemosensory dysfunction at the 19th International Symposium on Olfaction and Taste, "*Emerging endotypes of chronic COVID-19 chemosensory dysfunction through transcriptional and mediator characterization.*"



Dante also presented a poster "Myeloid Cell Dysregulation and Eicosanoid Overproduction Define distinct Endotypes of Chronic COVID-19 Chemosensory Dysfunction" at the 2024 Annual Meeting of the Association for Chemoreception Sciences.



Upcoming manuscripts



Brigham and Women's Hospital Founding member, Mass General Brigham We are diligently working on our next two manuscripts. One paper that compares the chemosensory changes after COVID-19 to a severe form of chronic rhinosinusitis to better understand treatment options. Another paper describes the biological mechanisms of COVID-19 chemosensory dysfunction. We hope to keep you informed as we continue to make discoveries and expand the medical knowledge and awareness about this condition.

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