



# Brazilian Journal of OTORHINOLARYNGOLOGY

[www.bjorl.org](http://www.bjorl.org)



## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### Monitoring of cases of anosmia and COVID-19



Dear Editor,

We would like to share ideas on the publication "Monitoring of cases of anosmia may help control the COVID-19 pandemic."<sup>1</sup> Miyake et al. concluded that "The adoption of a unified internet self-reported notification system of new cases of sudden dysosmia . . . . this pandemic".<sup>1</sup> In fact, asymptomatic and atypical clinical presentation is not uncommon in COVID-19 and it is necessary that the practitioner has to recognize for the possibility.<sup>2,3</sup> Anosmia is a possible clinical presentation in COVID-19. Screening for anosmia might be difficult but it is useful for early detection of the case.<sup>4</sup> A reporting tool might be helpful for screening.<sup>5</sup> Regarding the self-reported notification system, an important consideration is on the reliability. In a developing country, a low educated people might disguise the clinical history and the reporting system is usually not useful.<sup>6</sup> A non-subjective screening tool should be considered for anosmia screening.

### Conflicts of interest

The authors declare no conflicts of interest.

### References

1. Miyake MM, Anselmo-Lima WT. Monitoring of cases of anosmia may help control the COVID-19 pandemic. *Braz J Otorhinolaryngol.* 2021;87:377–8.
2. Joob B, Wiwanitkit V. Atypical presentation of COVID-19. *Am J Emerg Med.* 2021;39:237.
3. Joob S, Ronald M. Asymptomatic COVID-19: an important clinical consideration. *Adv Lab Med Int.* 2020;10:4–5.
4. Karimi-Galougahi M, Raad N, Mikaniki N. Anosmia and the need for COVID-19 screening during the pandemic. *Otolaryngol Head Neck Surg.* 2020;163:96–7.
5. Kaye R, Chang CWD, Kazahaya K, Brereton J, Denny JC 3rd. COVID-19 anosmia reporting tool: initial findings. *Otolaryngol Head Neck Surg.* 2020;163:132–4.
6. Joob B, Wiwanitkit V. Patients with COVID-19 and disguising on travel history: a challenge in disease screening. *Int J Prev Med.* 2020;11:46.

Pathum Sookaromdee  <sup>a,\*</sup>, Viroj Wiwanitkit  <sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Private Academic Consultant, Bangkok, Thailand

<sup>b</sup> Dr DY Patil University, Pune, India

\*Corresponding author.

E-mail: [pathumsook@gmail.com](mailto:pathumsook@gmail.com) (P. Sookaromdee).

Received 13 April 2021; Accepted 14 April 2021

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bjorl.2021.04.007>

1808-8694/© 2021 Associação Brasileira de Otorrinolaringologia e Cirurgia Cérvico-Facial. Published by Elsevier Editora Ltda. This is an open access article under the CC BY license (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>).