



GCCR

For Immediate Release

PEOPLE WITH RESPIRATORY ILLNESSES INCL. COVID-19 URGED TO PARTICIPATE IN SURVEY ON SMELL AND TASTE LOSS
DreamAir and BélAir scent engineer has joined global consortium of scientists in rapid response to COVID-19

April 25, 2020 National Sense of Smell Day – New York, Tokyo - Following a wave of reports from patients and healthcare workers about rapid onset smell loss, health organizations across continents have recognized anosmia as associated with COVID-19, even in the absence of other symptoms. More than 400 scientists [from 52 countries](#) have united in the Global Consortium of Chemosensory Researchers (GCCR) to investigate the connection between the three chemical senses and COVID-19.

Christophe Laudamiel of DreamAir Studios and BélAir Lab is a member of this group of clinicians, neurobiologists, data scientists, cognitive scientists, sensory researchers and technicians who specifically designed an investigative survey to reach out to **the public globally**. The survey has been translated into 24 languages and is easily accessible to private individuals and clinicians alike on the [GCCR website](#).

Laudamiel urges **anyone** who has recently experienced symptoms of, or thinks has had, a respiratory illness such as a cold, the flu or COVID-19

to complete the survey: <http://gcchemosensr.org/> .

The questions are formulated in non-jargon terms for a public from all cultural backgrounds and walks of life. The **anonymous** survey will take about ten min and is **available in Arabic, Chinese, Danish, Dutch, English, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Norwegian, Portuguese, Spanish, Swedish and in the complete 8 Indian languages**.

“We are counting on the participation of thousands of patients per country”, Prof. Jérôme Golebiowski, Côte d’Azur University-France and one of GCCR’s representatives explains. “We will be able to compare symptoms between countries as well.” If those olfactory patterns occur as early in the development of the disease as the team might think, it “could lead to recommending self-isolation to corresponding patients and getting tested for COVID-19,” Dr. Kathrin Ohla, Research Center Jülich and GCCR coordinator for Germany, estimates. She notes that “cultural differences could have a role in relating personal experiences,” and the global questionnaire was conceived with this in mind.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE GCCR and CONTACT SHEET

Ethics: The study has been approved by The Human Subjects' Office of Penn State University and complies with EU regulations as well as global ethical standards. The data collected is stored on EU and USA compliant servers located in Canada.

Country contacts by alphabetical order:

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GCCR direct scientific correspondents for other countries available

Twitter: [@GCChemosensoryR](https://twitter.com/GCChemosensoryR)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/GCChemosensoryR/>

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The Global Consortium of Chemosensory Researchers (GCCR) defines, coordinates, and disseminates global efforts to advance the scientific understanding and clinical practice related to the chemical senses (smell, taste and chemesthesis). The non-for-profit consortium includes transdisciplinary scientists, clinicians and patient advocates from more than 50 countries across all six populated continents. The GCCR was founded in March 2020 to fulfill a need for evidence-based assessment for smell and taste loss during the current pandemic. It analyzes worldwide information to combat the spread of COVID-19. The GCCR leadership team includes John Hayes (PhD, Penn State, USA), Thomas Hummel (MD, Technische Universität Dresden, Germany), Chrissi Kelly (Founder, AbScent.org, UK), Steve Munger (PhD, University of Florida, USA), Masha Niv (PhD, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel), Kathrin Ohla, (PhD, Research Center Jülich, Germany), Valentina Parma (GCCR Chair and PhD, Temple University, USA), Danielle Reed (PhD, Monell Chemical Senses Center, USA) and Maria Veldhuizen (PhD, Mersin University, Turkey).

Christophe Laudamiel is a master perfumer and scent engineer at DreamAir Studios (New York) and BÉlAir Lab (Tokyo). An early chemist champion and teaching fellow at MIT, he later founded the non-profit Academy of Perfumery and Aromatics to foster education and perfume theory, collaborating regularly with academia. He has created top ten fragrances for well-known fashion and beauty houses, celebrity projects and several World Economic Forums. Christophe's scents are entered in collections at the Cleveland Museum of Art and Harvard University Archives in the USA and the International Perfumery Museum in Grasse-France. He was named "Perfumer of the Future" in 2018 by Perfumers & Flavorists magazine. An inventor on 17 patents and recipient of more than twenty medals and awards, from a special CNRS award (1986) to a lifetime achievement award from the Institute of Art and Olfaction in Los Angeles, he often combines scents with custom-made technologies. His scent installations have been displayed at institutions such as Basel, Bordeaux, Cooper Hewitt and Guggenheim museums, or for the official USA and Swiss Pavilions at world exhibitions.

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