

## UNITED STATES PROVISIONAL PATENT APPLICATION

Title: COVID-19 Scent Strip

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### FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to the field of early diagnosis of SARS-CoV-2 also known as COVID-19 viral infection. Specifically, the present invention relates to identifying patients who are experiencing early onset anosmia or loss of smell, a clinical manifestation of the viral infection.

### BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

COVID-19 is a pandemic coronavirus that is causing significant world-wide mortality. Prompt diagnosis of the severity of symptoms can lead to better clinical outcomes. Symptoms of COVID-19 infection appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. Although some of the symptoms are similar to seasonal influenza, the loss of smell is a warning sign the infection is COVID-19 indicating the person needs to take special care in monitoring symptoms. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>

At present there is no standard way of monitoring loss of smell.

### SUMMARY OF THE DESCRIPTION

A defined microencapsulated scent is applied to 1 by 3-inch piece of paper and protected by an easily removable cover strip. When the cover strip is removed, the scent is released and can be sniffed. The absence of smell will provide important patient information about the possibility of COVID-19 infection. COVID-19 Scent Strips do not require any special expertise to use.