

Preface

Breath odors are a common and disturbing condition affecting some 25% of the adult population. Caregivers (dentists, family practitioners, ENT specialists, gastroenterologists, etc.) encounter patients with breath odor complaints in their daily practice. However, diagnosis and management of breath odors are barely taught in dental and medical faculties.

Academic research on breath odors dates back almost a century. During the 1960s, Joseph Tonzetich (University of British Columbia) and colleagues introduced gas chromatography techniques, and since then, continual growth has been seen in this field. The wealth of scientific data that has accumulated warrants a concise textbook summarizing the current status of breath research, and its implications for clinical diagnoses and management strategies. We hope that the current text will help fill this gap, that researchers, students and clinicians will find it informative and helpful, and that the data presented here will be shared in medical and dental curricula.

We are grateful to the many mentors, colleagues, students and technicians who have contributed research and wisdom, and enriched us and the scientific community at large. Specifically, we would like to thank Daniel van Steenberghe, the cofounder of the International Society for Breath Odor Research (ISBOR), John Greenman and Walter Loesche for their contribution to the understanding of the microbial aspects, Christopher A.G. McCulloch and Avital Kozlovsky for their insight into the role of periodontal diseases, Ilana Eli for her contribution to understanding the role of self-assessment, Israel Kleinberg for his contribution on metabolic factors, Eugene Rosenberg for mentoring (MR) and 30 years of fruitful scientific discussions, and Jacob Gabbay for his input into sulfide testing and odor judge panels.

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Breath Odors

Origin, Diagnosis, and Management

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