

Faculty of Biological Sciences, Tarbiat Modares University, Tehran, Iran



## Identification of important volatile organic compounds as cancer biomarkers

Sajjad Janfaza<sup>a</sup>, Babak Khorsand <sup>b</sup>, Javad Zahiri<sup>\*c</sup>, Maryam Nikkhah<sup>\*a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Department of Nanobiotechnology, Faculty of Biological Sciences, Tarbiat Modares University, Jalal Ale Ahmad Highway, Tehran 14117, Iran

<sup>b</sup> Department of Nanobiotechnology, Faculty of Biological Sciences, Tarbiat Modares University, Jalal Ale Ahmad Highway, Tehran 14117, Iran

<sup>c</sup> Bioinformatics and Computational Omics Lab (BioCOOL), Department of Biophysics, Faculty of Biological Sciences, Tarbiat Modares University, Jalal Ale Ahmad Highway, Tehran 14117, Iran

\*Corresponding authors: zahiri@modares.ac.ir m\_nikkhah@modares.ac.ir

**Abstract:** Cancer is an important public health problem in the world. Cancer is rapidly increasing in most countries and the cancer rate is likely to be doubled by the end of 2035 [1]. It is estimated that more than 50% of the cancers are curable if they are detected in early stages and treated appropriately. It has been demonstrated that during cancer the concentration of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) alters in body fluids or breath. Knowing which VOCs, as a biomarker, alter during the cancer initiation and development and the relationship between them are known to be useful for cancer diagnosis research. Here, we analyzed COD database [2] containing comprehensive information on cancer-related to highlight potentially significant VOCs for cancer detection. Results showed that about 20 volatile organic compounds change in four or more than four types of cancer, which belong to four chemical classes, namely aldehydes, alkanes, ketones and alcohols.

Keywords: volatile organic compounds, Cancer, cancer diagnosis,

## References

[1] R. Smith, K. Andrews, D. Brooks, S. Fedewa, D. Manassaram-Baptiste, D.Saslow, O. Brawley, and R. Wender. "Cancer screening in the United States, 2017: A review of current American Cancer Society guidelines and current issues in cancer screening." CA: a cancer journal for clinicians 67, no. 2 (2017): 100-121.

[2] S. Janfaza, M. Banan Nojavani, B. Khorsand, M. Nikkhah, and J. Zahiri. "Cancer Odor Database (COD): a critical databank for cancer diagnosis research." Database 2017 (2017).