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How Covid-19 steals your sense of smell

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Few of smell receptors, proteins on the surface of the nerve cells in the nose that detect and transmit information about odours. The process alters the sophisticated organisation of genes in those neurons, essentially shortcircuiting them, the researchers reported.

Their paper advances the understanding of how cells critical to the sense of smell are affected by the virus, even though they are not directly infected, said Dr Sandeep Robert Datta, an associate professor of neurobiology at Harvard Medical School, US, who was not involved in the study.

“The inflammation in the adjacent cells triggers changes in the sensory neurons that prevent them from said. working properly,” he