Olfactory disorders and consequences

Generally, three functions are assigned to the sense of smell, namely warning us of potential danger, social communication and importance for eating and drinking. These functions are also reflected in some of the complaints of patients with smell disorders: occurrence of household accidents, inability to smell other people like family members, loss of flavor perception.

Despite of these important functions approximately 5% of the general population lives without a sense of smell with "age" being a major factor in smell loss. Other major causes of olfactory loss include acute infections of the upper respiratory tract, sinonasal diseases (including chronic rhinosinusitis, allergies), or head trauma. People can live without a sense of smell, but they lose quality of life with a portion of the showing signs of depression.

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Guests are welcome!