

Researchers need your (digital) coughs

1 April 2020, by Sarah McQuate



doctoral student in the Allen School. "We also train the model with negative examples—such as voices, laughing and throat clearing—to help it learn to not classify them as coughs. The more examples we can give the [model](#), the better performance it will achieve."

The team welcomes participants of all ages. For the best results, participants should do this study on a computer or laptop instead of a smartphone or tablet.

More information: For more information, contact Whitehill at mattw12@uw.edu.

While you're working from home, fill out a survey that will help UW researchers develop a cough-monitoring app. Credit: University of Washington

Provided by University of Washington

For anyone who is looking for a way to help during the coronavirus pandemic while adhering to "stay-at-home" and social distancing orders, University of Washington researchers have a task for you.

A team from the Paul G. Allen School of Computer Science & Engineering is developing an app that will allow [health organizations](#) to monitor coughs from self-quarantined COVID-19 patients at home. Right now, the researchers need to train the app to recognize coughing sounds, so they are asking for participants who can complete a quick [15-minute survey](#) to collect coughs and other vocalizations.

The survey includes:

- a consent form
- a demographic/health questionnaire
- participants submitting sounds of 20 coughs and up to 10 samples of other vocalizations, including speech, throat-clearing and laughter

"These sounds will help us train our [cough](#) detection model," said Matthew Whitehill, a

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