Comparison of Breath Collection Techniques Using TD-GCxGC-MS Natasha J. Babuik¹, E. Y. Mesfin¹, S. A. Schmidt¹, A. P. de la Mata¹, J. J. Harynuk¹

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Introduction

- Exhaled breath contains volatile organic compounds (VOCs). VOCs are a broad class of compounds that includes many different organic compounds. Within the human body, these volatile metabolites act as biomarkers. They can indicate disease presence, progression, and environmental hazards/exposures, and can be used for other applications.¹
- Breath is gaining popularity as a biosample because its sampling process is non-invasive and low risk for patients.
- In this study, 3L Tedlar bags and the BioVOC2 device were compared as collection techniques for breath volatiles using TD-GC×GC-TOFMS. Techniques were compared according to analytical performance (diversity of compounds, analyte responses, etc.), as well as practical considerations (sampling time, ease of use, etc.).

Methods



Participants blew into the device and pumped breath onto tube. Repeated 8 times as each sample collects 129 mL of breath (8 samples total on one tube)



BioVOC 2 samples were loaded directly onto the biomonitoring tubes.



Participant inhaled and exhaled fully, filling the 3L bag with 2 breaths.



Tedlar bag samples were pumped onto biomonitoring tubes (Tenax TA and Carbograph 5) at 50 mL/min







60 mL/min flow rate 13.8 mL/min split flow



Results

Metabolites to Diagnose Infection

(1)A.Z.Berna, A.R.O.John, Clinical Chemistry 68:1 43-51 (2022) Breath