While the list of symptoms of COVID-19 infection is regularly updated, it is established that in symptomatic cases COVID-19 seriously impairs normal functioning of the respiratory system. Does this alter the acoustic characteristics of breathe, cough, and speech sounds produced through the respiratory system? This is an open question waiting for scientific insights.

A COVID-19 diagnosis methodology based on acoustic signal analysis, if successful, can provide a remote, scalable, and economical means for screening (or testing) of individuals. This can supplement the existing nucleotides based COVID-19 testing methods, such as RT-PCR and RAT.

The DiCOVA Session/Challenge is designed to find scientific and engineering insights to the question by enabling participants to analyze an acoustic dataset gathered from COVID-19 positive and non-COVID-19 individuals. The selected findings will be presented in a special session at Interspeech 2021, the flagship conference of the global speech science and technology community, to be held in Brno from Aug 31-Sept 3, 2021.

We look forward to your participation!