



**DESIGN AND HEALING:
CREATIVE RESPONSES TO
EPIDEMICS**

ABOUT THE EXHIBITION

This exhibition, curated by MASS Design Group and Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum, was organized during the unfolding COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic revealed what some have known for a long time: breathing is spatial. This fact has implications at the scale of the body, building, city, and planet. Everyone on Earth has been affected by the pandemic. Unequal access to housing, jobs, and health care ensured that COVID-19 hit marginalized communities harder than others.

On View Now through Monday, February 20 2023

See the Exhibition [Purchase your ticket to the museum.](#)

View All Exhibition Objects [Design and Healing: Creative Responses to Epidemics](#)



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I need,
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#17 The Ventilative Hygiene Pad, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 2020
More than 1,000 people who have been
care, and visitors were asked to
to visitors, contractors and only
with it. Philadelphia, May 14, 2020.
cover-ups were installed at 100
distribution sites.
Photo: David H. Freedman/PAI

Kinasa HealthWeather Map, 2020
Tracking aggregated, anonymized
data from its smart thermometer,
Kinasa's HealthWeather Map indicates
where fevers are occurring across
the USA. This map from March 2020
anticipates outbreaks of COVID-19
in some parts of the country.
Photo: Kinasa, Inc.

Many individuals and families want to monitor their own health at home and in their communities. Trips to a clinic or hospital can be inconvenient and intimidating, leading to delayed treatment. Such visits also expose people to potential infection. Telehealth accelerated during the COVID-19 crisis. Tracking population data helped public health officials respond to the pandemic.



Ventivolve Natsone Kit, 2020
Ventivolve is an emergency national
kit used to assess the effects of an
onset overdose. The package is
reusable. It is a 4x4 inch of the
right material with carrying a
springs. It can be identified by hand
from inside a bag or bagpack.
Photo: Kinasa, Inc.

CATCH HIV Testing Device
Prototype, 2018
The CATCH device allows people to
test themselves for HIV. Users slide
the test material into one of the
slots. Pressing the device draws
fluid up through capillaries and
channels it onto a disposable strip
to be read later.
Photo: Kinasa, Inc.



3 Cue COVID-19 Test, 2020

The Cue COVID-19 Test detects the RNA of the virus that causes COVID-19. The accuracy of this portable test is similar to that of a laboratory test. The user inserts Cue's lower nasal swab into a cartridge, which connects to the Cue Health Monitoring System. Results are sent to a mobile smart device in about 20 minutes.
Cue Health Inc., 401 First Street, Cambridge, MA 02142, USA
Photo: Kinasa, Inc.
Source: Kinasa, Inc.

4 MSOL Fingertip Pulse Oximeter

In April 2020, Dr. Richard Levitan observed that many COVID-19 patients in New York City were becoming affected with pneumonia before experiencing severe symptoms. Dr. Levitan advocated the use of pulse oximeters at home. These handheld, over-the-counter devices detect low oxygen levels and encourage patients to seek treatment sooner.
Oxyphonic, 1000 Market Street, San Francisco, CA 94102
Photo: Kinasa, Inc.
Source: Kinasa, Inc.

5 Kinasa QuickCare Smart Thermometer, 2018

The Kinasa QuickCare app pairs directly to the Kinasa smart thermometer, permitting the user to receive advice from an in-house clinician regarding body temperature and other symptoms. The app also aggregates anonymized data about users' temperatures.
Kinasa, 1000 Market Street, San Francisco, CA 94102
Photo: Kinasa, Inc.
Source: Kinasa, Inc.

6 Wearable Sensors, 2017-21

John A. Higgins is a physical chemist and materials scientist at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, creates medical-grade wearable devices. These devices can be applied to optimal parts of the body (unlike a wristwatch) and can be used to track a wide range of body processes. Sensors designed to monitor COVID-19 track coughing, vocalization, and temperature.
John A. Higgins, 1000 Market Street, San Francisco, CA 94102
Photo: Kinasa, Inc.
Source: Kinasa, Inc.

7 Catch-HIV Testing Device Prototype, 2018

HIV is a treatable illness if caught early. Catch, designed by Haim and Sarah Blomzon, is an HIV test that is so easy to use it's a home pregnancy test. Catch is under development for manufacture.
Haim Blomzon, 1000 Market Street, San Francisco, CA 94102
Photo: Kinasa, Inc.
Source: Kinasa, Inc.

8 DoorMate Touch Tool, 2020

This tool allows people to avoid touching door knobs, keyboards, and buttons. The tool is designed for pushing or pulling door handles. Nearly 11,000 units have been given to local hospitals, schools, and police stations in Norwich, UK.
DoorMate, 1000 Market Street, San Francisco, CA 94102
Photo: Kinasa, Inc.
Source: Kinasa, Inc.

9 Sigma Touch Tool, 2020

This small brass device is designed to latch onto a key chain. The hooked surface is for pushing door handles and the subtle protrusion is for pushing buttons.
Sigma Touch Tool, 1000 Market Street, San Francisco, CA 94102
Photo: Kinasa, Inc.
Source: Kinasa, Inc.

10 FEND Rinsev Hygiene, 2020

FEND was conceived by David Edwards, a biomedical engineer specializing in the science of inhalation. FEND creates a cloud of water and salt that coats the nose and throat. By keeping the upper airways hydrated for about six hours, the salts enable clearance of inhaled allergens and pathogens, including COVID-19. FEND is being used in homes, schools, film studios, and hospitals in the USA and India.
FEND, 1000 Market Street, San Francisco, CA 94102
Photo: Kinasa, Inc.
Source: Kinasa, Inc.

11 Ventilative Natsone Kit, 2020

Ventivolve is a portable device for treating opioid overdoses with naloxone. A Natsone Kit can insert the naloxone into the nostrils of a person who has overdosed. Ventilative environments in home, school, and hospital settings are used to reduce the risk of overdose.
Ventivolve, 1000 Market Street, San Francisco, CA 94102
Photo: Kinasa, Inc.
Source: Kinasa, Inc.

COVID-19 AND RESPONSE COLLECTING IN THE US



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Wearable Sensors, 2017–21

John A. Rogers, a physical chemist and materials scientist at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, creates medical-grade wearable devices. These devices can be applied to optimal parts of the body (unlike a wristwatch) and can be used to track a wide range of body processes. Sensors designed to monitor COVID-19 track coughing, vocalization, and temperature.

*John A. Rogers (American, b. 1967)
Silicone, electronics
Courtesy of John A. Rogers*

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Catch HIV Testing Device Prototype

HIV is a treatable illness if caught early. Catch is a device designed by Hans and Farah Ramzan for an HIV test that is as easy to use as a pregnancy test. Catch is under development for manufacture.

*Hans Ramzan (British, b. 1994), Research by Farah Ramzan
Plastic
Courtesy of Hans Ramzan*