



Erratum: Health communication about COVID-19 and Diabetes Mellitus in social media: True and False

Errata: Comunicação em saúde sobre COVID-19 e Diabetes Mellitus em mídias sociais: verdadeiro e falso

In the article “Health communication about COVID-19 and Diabetes Mellitus in social media: true and false”, DOI number: 10.1590/2177-9465-EAN-2021-0358, published by Escola Anna Nery 2022;26(spe):e20210358 in chart 1:

Chart 1. List of *Fake News* topics found on three information dissemination platforms. Ribeirão Preto, São Paulo, Brazil, 2021

Thematic Category	News Item	Media	
		MS	Twitter
Food products and substances	Coconut recipe that cures coronavirus	X	
	Vitamin D also helps prevent diabetes, heart attack and stroke. People who died due to coronavirus were vitamin D deficient		X
	I swear, from what I've "heard", coconut water is the answer to: diabetes, kidney disease, liver disease, hypertension, cholesterol control, coronavirus, drugs: we found the elixir of life!		X
	Coffee prevents coronavirus	X	
	Hot bicarbonate lemon tea cures coronavirus	X	
	Consecrated oil to cure coronavirus	X	
	Vitamin C cures coronavirus, which came from animals, and lemon water that cures cancer	X	
	Video - Vitamin D and the prevention of the new coronavirus	X	
Socioeconomic status and life habits	Both coronavirus and diabetes are diseases of high purchasing power		X

Should be read:

Chart 1. List of subjects in two information channels (Twitter and Ministry of Health - MS) classified as false by both the Ministry of Health and the scientific literature. Ribeirão Preto, Sao Paulo, Brazil, 2021.

Thematic Category	News Item
Food products and substances	Coconut recipe that cures coronavirus (MS) ^(45,46)
	Vitamin D also helps prevent diabetes, heart attack and stroke. People who died due to coronavirus were vitamin D deficient (Twitter) ^(35,36)
	I swear, from what I've "heard", coconut water is the answer to: diabetes, kidney disease, liver disease, hypertension, cholesterol control, coronavirus, drugs: we found the elixir of life!
	Coffee prevents coronavirus (MS) ^(45,46)
	Hot bicarbonate lemon tea cures coronavirus (MS) ^(45,46)
	Consecrated oil to cure coronavirus (MS) ⁽³⁹⁾
Socioeconomic status and life habits	Vitamin C cures coronavirus, which came from animals, and lemon water that cures cancer (MS) ^(35,36)
	Video - Vitamin D and the prevention of the new coronavirus (MS) ^(35,36)
Medications	Both coronavirus and diabetes are diseases of high purchasing power (Twitter) ^(37,38)
	Medicine for COVID-19 (drug creation) (MS) ^(43,44)
	Chloroquine cures coronavirus, lassa, HIV, diabetes, hypertension and fever (twitter) ^(43,44)
COVID-19 and DM	Drugs taken by thousands of people with high blood pressure and diabetes could increase risk of deadly coronavirus symptoms (Twitter) ^(40,41)
	Evidence suggests coronavirus can cause diabetes (Twitter) ^(51,52,53)
	Metabolic surgery is positioned as the best option for curing obesity-associated diabetes, diseases that represent risk factors for coronavirus infection (Twitter) ^(51,52,53)
	Poor quality masks distributed by the Ministry of Health (MS) ⁽⁴⁹⁾
Severity and risk factors	They created a selective virus, Chinese coronavirus, to solve the problem of overpopulation of the elderly and people with diseases such as diabetes, heart hypertension (Twitter) ⁽⁵⁶⁾
	Those who have died as a result of the coronavirus are the elderly, those with chronic diseases like diabetes, chronic kidney failure. The mask is not particularly useful because of the moisture from the breath (for this to be useful, you need to change the mask every 30 minutes) (Twitter) ^(54,55)
	Coronavirus does not get diabetes. it's against the law (Twitter) ^(51,52,53)
	Thai doctors cure coronavirus in 48 hours (MS) ^(33,42)
	New coronavirus causes pneumonia immediately (MS) ^(54,55)

Source: News items adapted from the Twitter and MS²⁵ platforms.

In the article “Health communication about COVID-19 and Diabetes Mellitus in social media: true and false”, DOI number: 10.1590/2177-9465-EAN-2021-0358, published by Escola Anna Nery 2021;26(SpeCovid19):e20210358 in Conclusion:

CONCLUSION

From what was exposed in this article, it was observed that most of the posts were fake news; therefore, the impact of the social media on the dissemination of information, whether true or false, is perceived. In particular, in the pandemic context, excess of disinformation was found, given the disputes over knowledge and powers. This scenario causes significant damage to the communication of the competent bodies and scientific communities with the population, hindering access to information with scientific grounds and, consequently, generating a great loss in the conduction of the epidemiological scenario.

The main limitation of the current study is linked to the analysis of only three media, therefore being essential to carry out studies in other social media such as *WhatsApp*, *Facebook*, *Instagram* and *YouTube*. Another limitation was the time frame of less than one year in *Twitter*, which may have limited the types of news items broadcast and thus influenced the results obtained.

However, these results indicate the relevance of the theme and point to the need to resort to health communication as a powerful tool to be used by scientists and health professionals to give visibility to information with scientific evidence, in an accessible and understandable way to people via social media. In addition, the importance of health communication is finally highlighted in order to provide opportunities for the transposition of the “sciences” carried out in universities to the community.

Should be read:

CONCLUSION

From what was exposed in this article, it was observed that most of the posts were fake news; therefore, the impact of the social media on the dissemination of information, whether true or false, is perceived. In particular, in the pandemic context, excess of disinformation was found, given the disputes over knowledge and powers. This scenario causes significant damage to the communication of the competent bodies and scientific communities with the population, hindering access to information with scientific grounds and, consequently, generating a great loss in the conduction of the epidemiological scenario.

The main limitation of the current study is linked to the analysis of only two media, therefore being essential to carry out studies in other social media such as *WhatsApp*, *Facebook*, *Instagram* and *YouTube*. Another limitation was the time frame of less than one year in *Twitter*, which may have limited the types of news items broadcast and thus influenced the results obtained. Furthermore, it is recognized that the search for scientific studies on the subject occurred in a period where a large number of publications and preliminary studies related to the theme of this study can be observed.

However, these results indicate the relevance of the theme and point to the need to resort to health communication as a powerful tool to be used by scientists and health professionals to give visibility to information with scientific evidence, in an accessible and understandable way to people via social media. In addition, the importance of health communication is finally highlighted in order to provide opportunities for the transposition of the “sciences” carried out in universities to the community.