

A website that has published false and unsubstantiated medical claims to promote the use of natural remedies.

Ownership and Financing

A NewsGuard search of the website, its domain registration records and MedNat's Facebook page did not find information on its ownership. The website said on a Press Release page that MedNat.news was owned by Milan publishing house Editrice Vanoli Srl until 2003, when that company closed due to financial problems.

The site does not run advertisements. The website promotes health-related services on the homepage and within individual posts, inviting users to contact the site "if you want to know your state of well-being." In response to an emailed inquiry about the service, the website's self-described "consultant," Giovanni Paolo Vanoli, said that a two-hour, bioelectronic test to improve health would cost approximately 730 euros.

Content

MedNat.news describes itself on the homepage as "a health guide through nature" ("guida alla salute con la natura"). "All the most important and effective Holistic Natural Medicines, you can find them here! (the do-it-yourself of Physical - Spiritual Health - Natural Medicine within reach of ALL). The NEW Natural Medicine, in this Millennium, will bring to Humanity, Wellness to ALL, through natural health self-management WITHOUT drugs and vaccines" the website says on the homepage. ("Tutte le più importanti ed efficaci Medicine Naturali Olistiche, le trovate qui! (il fai da Te della Salute Fisico - Spirituale - La Medicina Naturale alla portata di TUTTI). La NUOVA Medicina Naturale, in questo Millennio, porterà per l'Umanità, Benessere a TUTTI, per mezzo dell'autogestione della Salute in modo naturale SENZA farmaci e Vaccini").

The site publishes content that primarily promotes natural cures for diseases. Content is organized under dozens of topic pages, such as Vaccine Inquiries



Proceed with caution: This website severely violates basic standards of credibility and transparency.

Score: 22.5/100

-  Does not repeatedly publish false content (22 points)
-  Gathers and presents information responsibly (18)
-  Regularly corrects or clarifies errors (12.5)
-  Handles the difference between news and opinion responsibly (12.5)
-  Avoids deceptive headlines (10)
-  Website discloses ownership and financing (7.5)
-  Clearly labels advertising (7.5)
-  Reveals who's in charge, including any possible conflicts of interest (5)
-  The site provides names of content creators, along with either contact or biographical information (5)

Criteria are listed in order of importance.

[More information.](#)

(Danni da Vaccini), Natural Cures (Cure Naturali), Natural Medicine (Medicina Naturale), and Cancer (Cancro). Articles are often undated.

Typical pages on the site include "Crimes of the pharmaceutical industry - 3" ("Crimini dell'industria farmaceutica - 3"), "Business of drugs and vaccine - conflicts of interest" ("Business di farmaci e vaccini - conflitti di interesse"), and "Made up diseases" ("Malattie inventate").

Credibility

MedNat.news has repeatedly made false health claims about the healing powers of natural remedies, and promoted some remedies as unsubstantiated cancer cures.

For example an undated page, "Treatment with lemons and grapes" ("Cura dei limoni e dell'uva") aired the debunked theory that baking soda can kill cancer cells. The article said, "Baking soda, humble and very cheap compound, according to recent and surprising medical research, can also cure cancer" ("Il bicarbonato di sodio, umile composto e molto a buon mercato, secondo recenti e sorprendenti ricerche mediche, può curare anche il cancro").

In a page with the heading "Dr. Tullio SIMONCINI'S CURRICULUM" ("CURRICULUM del dott. Tullio SIMONCINI"), Vanoli wrote, "Simoncini recommends baking soda for cancer treatment, and claims it can cure cancer in 80% of cases" ("Simoncini raccomanda per la cura del cancro il bicarbonato di sodio, e sostiene di poter curare il cancro nell'80% dei casi").

The page referred to Italian doctor Tullio Simoncini, who has claimed that cancer is a fungus and can be cured with baking soda. Simoncini was convicted of manslaughter after one of his patients died after being injected with sodium bicarbonate. He began serving a 5 ½-year prison sentence in January 2018.

The claim that cancer is a fungus that can be killed by baking soda is "not supported by science or clinical evidence and is contrary to widely-accepted basic facts of oncology and microbiology," according to a

2008 article published by the American Cancer Society. A March 2014 article from Cancer Research UK notes that while early-stage research has shown that "sodium bicarbonate can affect cancers transplanted into mice or cells grown in the lab," there is also evidence that "high doses of sodium bicarbonate can lead to serious - even fatal - consequences."

A page titled "Dott. HAMER'S NEW MEDICINE" ("NUOVA MEDICINA del dott. HAMER") aired a German doctor's false claim that cancer and other diseases can be cured by resolving psychological conflicts. The doctor, Theol Ryke Geerd Hamer, had his medical license revoked for malpractice in 1986.

The MedNat.news page that described Hamer's theory said that "every disease is a response of the brain (mind) to an external trauma ... Once the trauma is resolved, the brain reverses the command and the situation returns to normal" ("ogni malattia è una risposta del cervello (mente) ad un trauma esterno... Risolto il trauma, il cervello inverte il comando e la situazione ritorna alla normalità"). The same page later claimed that cancer is a "biological-emotional conflict" ("un conflitto biologico-emozionale"), and that "the psyche determines the organ in which cancer is formed" ("la psiche determina l'organo in cui si forma il cancro").

According to the AIRC Foundation for Cancer Research's website, "There is no scientific theory behind the Hamer method and it is in fact in profound contrast to what has been demonstrated on the functioning of the human body and on the development of cancer pathologies." ("La teoria alla base del metodo Hamer non ha nulla di scientifico e anzi è in profondo contrasto con ciò che è stato dimostrato sul funzionamento del corpo umano e sullo sviluppo delle patologie tumorali"). In 2001, the Study Group for Complementary and Alternative Methods in Cancer and the Swiss League against Cancer also found no evidence to back Hamer's claims.

MedNat.news has repeatedly published false claims that vaccines cause autism and multiple sclerosis. For example, one undated post said, "What we get instead with Vaccines are SERIOUS side effects such as AUTOIMMUNE DISEASES and ENCEPHALOPATHIES (Autism, dystrophies, polio, meningitis, sclerosis, leukemia, etc.) due to the serious INOSSICATIONS and INFLAMMATIONS (ASIA) induced by them!" ("Ciò che otteniamo invece con i Vaccini sono effetti collaterali GRAVI come le MALATTIE AUTOIMMUNI e le ENCEFALOPATIE (Autismo, distrofie, polio, meningite, sclerosi, leucemie, ecc.) per le gravi INTOSSICAZIONI ed INFIAMMAZIONI (ASIA) indotte con essi!"). Another undated article claimed that most of the 110,000 people who suffer from multiple sclerosis are afflicted by "long term side effects" caused by vaccines. "The number of sick people is increasing more and more ... not counting cancers in children, as well as leukemia, dystrophies, sids, allergies, asthma, epilepsies, etc. etc., and all this thanks to the Vaccines," the post continued. ("In Italia vi sono 110.000 malati di Sclerosi (di tutti i tipi) che e' al 98% un danno tardivo dei VACCINI ed i malati aumentano sempre piu'...senza contare i cancri nei bambini, oltre a leucemia, distrofie, sids, allergie, asma, epilessie, ecc. ecc., e tutto cio' GRAZIE ai Vaccini").

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and many other health and science authorities, including the U.K. National Health Service and the World Health Organization, have repeatedly stated that there is no link between vaccines and autism.

According to the Multiple Sclerosis Trust, a U.K. charity that funds MS research, "numerous studies" have investigated a possible link between MS and a variety of vaccines, and concluded that "current evidence does not suggest that vaccinations are a cause of MS." The CDC stated on its website that research published in 1998 "caused concern" that the hepatitis B vaccine may be linked with MS, but "this link has not been found in the large body of research that has been done since that time."

MedNat also published unsubstantiated claims on the 2020 coronavirus outbreak. A page titled "Made-up disease" ("Malattie inventate") defines the Coronavirus "an engineered biological weapon, 'leaked', in good faith or bad faith, from the laboratory in China" ("un'arma biologica ingegnerizzata, 'uscita' in buona fede o mala fede, dal laboratorio di contenimento in Cina").

The claim that the virus was engineered in a lab in China has been denied by biologists and major health organizations. A February 2020 report by the World Health Organization says, "increasing evidence demonstrates the link between the 2019-nCoV and other similar known coronaviruses (CoV) circulating in bats." A study published the same month in the journal Nature found that the virus is "96% identical at the whole- genome level to a bat coronavirus."

Because MedNat.news has published numerous articles containing false and unsubstantiated health claims, NewsGuard has determined that the site repeatedly publishes false content and does not gather and present information responsibly.

Headlines on MedNat.news's pages generally accurately reflect content and do not repeat false information that appears in the text. Headlines often appear as subject headings on pages, such as "Natural Cures" or "Integrated Medicine."

The website posts detailed explanations on its homepage of its overall point of view that natural and alternative remedies can cure people of disease, "without drugs or vaccines." Most content on the site includes opinion reflecting that perspective, which is why NewsGuard has determined that the website does not fail to meet its standard for handling the difference between news and opinion responsibly.

The site does not publish a correction policy and NewsGuard could not find corrections on the site.

Vanoli, who answered NewsGuard's initial email inquiries sent to a general address, did not

answer NewsGuard's specific questions about the site's publication of false content and absence of corrections, and instead questioned NewsGuard's ability to accurately rate the website. "What qualifications do you have, in order to judge whether or not the validity of what you read or read" on the website, he asked.

In response to NewsGuard's question about why some posts do not cite studies that are recognized by the scientific community, Vanoli wrote, "the scientific community does not exist."

"I have been practicing [Natural Medicine] and teaching it for 45 years ... so your judgment cannot, nor can it EVER be correct, also because all of you have been indoctrinated by the school you attended, which adheres to the guidelines of universities that are funded, especially in the medical field, by Big Pharma," Vanoli continued. ("Io la pratico [medicina naturale] ed insegno a praticarla da ben 45 anni con ottimi risultati... Quindi il vs giudizio non può, né potrà MAI essere corretto, anche perché voi tutti siete stati indottrinati dalla scuola che avete frequentato, che si attiene alle linee guida delle università foraggiate, specie in campo medico, dalle Big Pharma").

Transparency

The site does not provide information about its ownership. MedNat provides a general contact email address.

On a page titled Consultant, MedNat.news features a 2,300-word biography of Vanoli, which says that while Vanoli was the "founder and webmaster" of the website, he now operates only as a consultant. NewsGuard has determined that this description does not clearly identify Vanoli as the site's editorial leader.

The site does not run traditional display advertisements. However, the website markets health-related services on its homepage and within individual articles, with the solicitation, "If you want to know your state of well-being and improve it with this special modern equipment, that even hospitals don't have."

The homepage also invites users to write the website “if you want to take a Bioelectronic Test (check the level of good health)”.

The solicitations, which appear on the homepage and within several other posts on the site, include links to a page called “Bioelectronics,” which appears under a “Natural Cures” section on the homepage, along with other informational pages. Because the website is advertising services within articles, and links to promotional content that is not labeled, NewsGuard has determined that the website does not meet its standard for clearly labeling advertising.

Vanoli is credited for some posts on the site, while others appear to be attributed to doctors and other authors. Many posts are not attributed to authors, and no contact information for any author is provided, which is why NewsGuard has determined that the website does not consistently provide information about content creators.

Following an exchange of emails with NewsGuard, Vanoli did not answer NewsGuard’s questions on the website’s failure to disclose its ownership, reveal who is in charge, provide information about content creators, and clearly label advertising.

History

Mednat.news launched in November 1999 under the domain name Mednat.org.

In June 2002, during the manslaughter trial of Simoncini, the doctor who has promoted baking soda as a cancer cure, the Court of Rome shut down Medicinenaturali.net, another website run by Vanoli. The site went back online in 2006.

In November 2019, MedNat.org changed its domain name to MedNat.news.

Editor’s Note: This Nutrition Label was updated on Feb. 28, 2020, with new examples of content.

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Send feedback to NewsGuard: [Click Here](#)

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