

medizin-heute.net

An anonymously run website that frequently publishes false or unsubstantiated health claims, including about the COVID-19 virus and bogus cancer cures.



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

Score: 12.5/100

Ownership and Financing

According to the Imprint page, the site is owned by Medisanas Ltd., a company based in Manchester, UK. However, NewsGuard could not find a registration for a company under that name. The phone number listed on the site did not belong to that company.

The site runs advertisements. Many articles promote CBD oil, linking to online stores.

Content

Medizin-heute promotes the notion that various plants, foods, and other natural substances can cure medical problems ranging from depression to cancer. Content is organized into sections including Home, Latest (Aktuell), Health (Gesundheit), Natural Remedies (Naturheilmittel), and Cancer (Krebs).

Typical articles on the site have run under headlines including "New study confirms cannabidiol is effective against psychosis" ("Neue Studie bestätigt, dass Cannabidiol ein wirksames Mittel gegen Psychose ist"); "Breakthrough: Scientists develop cheap universal vaccine to cure cancer" ("Durchbruch: Wissenschaftler entwickeln billigen Universal-Impfstoff, um Krebs zu heilen"); and "Never feel depressed again - How to naturally recharge your dopamine levels" ("Nie wieder deprimiert fühlen – Wie Sie Ihre Dopaminspiegel auf natürliche Weise aufladen.")

-  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.](#)

Credibility

Medizin-Heute.net regularly publishes articles presenting unsubstantiated "natural remedies" for cancer and other ailments. The site often does not cite sources for its claims and sometimes relies on sites that have published false or misleading information, such as Collective-Evolution.com.

For example, a February 2020 article titled "Biological laboratory for the 'most dangerous pathogens in the world' opened in Wuhan shortly before the coronavirus outbreak" ("Biolabor für die 'Gefährlichsten Krankheitserreger der Welt' in Wuhan kurz vor dem

Ausbruch des Coronavirus eröffnet") suggested that the COVID-19 virus had been designed in and released from a lab. The article stated that "The disease is said to have originated in a meat market in Wuhan... However, it is possible that there is more behind the story... A very strange coincidence in the development of this outbreak is the fact that a new biological laboratory was recently opened in Wuhan, where the disease is believed to originate."

There is no reliable evidence to back the claim that the new strain of coronavirus came from a lab. A February 2020 study published in the journal Nature found that the COVID-19 virus is "96% percent identical at the whole-genome level to a bat coronavirus." In a February 2020 report, the World Health Organization said that researchers have linked the COVID-19 virus to similar coronaviruses in bats.

An April 2019 article, headlined "Why organic vegetables & organic fruits destroy cancer cells in a highly efficient way" ("Wieso Biogemüse & Bioobst hocheffizient Krebszellen zerstören"), was based on a book by a writer described as a "Professor of Gardening and Landscape Design" in Munich. The book and article claim that starting at age 70, the author "only ate fruit and vegetables that came from his compost-fertilized garden" and that, as a result, "diseases and allergies that had burdened him for 30 years healed in no time." The article stated that salvestrol, a chemical compound found in plants, "destroys cancer cells in humans in a targeted and highly efficient way." The article provides only the author's anecdotal evidence to back this claim.

According to a December 2014 article from the New Zealand branch of the Science Media Center, an organization seeking to improve news reporting on scientific topics, salvestrol "is not recommended for people with cancer or in fact any condition, it is highly unlikely to be effective and may be harmful." No organic food or diet has been shown to "destroy cancer cells," although a change in diet may reduce cancer risk, the Science Media Center article reported. A March 2019 article from The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center states that "there is no food that can stop cancer in its tracks or bring your risk of developing cancer to zero."

A June 2019 article, titled "Large pharmaceutical companies admit that cannabis kills cancer cells" ("Große Pharmakonzerne geben zu, dass Cannabis Krebszellen abtötet"), stated that "over 100 peer-reviewed studies have come to the conclusion that cannabis cures cancer." The source for this claim was a February 2017 article, "More Than 100 Peer-Reviewed Studies Conclude: Cannabis Cures Cancer," published February 2017 on the conspiracy website Anonhq.com. NewsGuard found that none of the studies included in the Anonhq.com article concluded that cannabis cures cancer.

The article included an embedded YouTube video titled "HOW and WHY does Cannabis Cure Cancer - Scientific Explanation."

Authoritative sources, including Cancer Research UK and the U.S. National Cancer Institute, have issued reports debunking this claim. Also, a 2017 review of existing scientific literature conducted by the U.S. National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine concluded that "there is insufficient evidence to support or refute the conclusion that cannabinoids are an effective treatment for cancers."

A May 2019 article, headlined "New clinical study: Up to 50% of cancer patients die from chemo, not from cancer" ("Neue klinische Studie: Bis zu 50% der Krebspatienten sterben an der Chemo, nicht am Krebs"), misstated the results of published research.

Medizin-heute cited an August 2016 article in British newspaper The Telegraph, which was based on two studies conducted by Public Health England and Cancer Research UK. In fact, the studies found that only 8.4 percent of lung cancer patients and 2.4 percent of breast cancer patients included in the study died within 30 days of undergoing chemotherapy. The "up to 50 percent" figure refers to a mortality rate of 50.9 percent in one hospital region, which researchers said had mistakenly included the death of a patient who was undergoing palliative chemotherapy in its data — a fact omitted from both the Telegraph and Medizin-Heute.net articles.

The Medizin-heute article also stated that "What is particularly sad is that for years there have been effective alternatives that have been systematically banned." The article claimed that these "alternatives"

— including CBD oil — have “higher success rates and are massively cheaper than the questionable pharmaceutical treatments,” and that “Previous studies have shown that cannabis kills all types of cancer cells.” The article, which featured embedded links and advertisements for CBD oils, did not provide sources to back these claims.

A March 2019 article, “Turmeric and honey: the strongest antibiotic that not even doctors can explain” (“Kurkuma und Honig: Das stärkste Antibiotikum, das nicht einmal Ärzte erklären können”), claimed that “the combination of these two is the strongest antibiotic we can use.” The article cites several articles on the antimicrobial properties of honey and one on the antibacterial properties of turmeric. However, none of the sources it cites support the statement that the combination of honey and turmeric is “the strongest antibiotic we can use.”

Because the site has frequently promoted false and unsubstantiated health claims and misrepresented the findings of published research, NewsGuard has determined that the site regularly publishes false content, does not gather and present information responsibly, and fails to avoid deceptive headlines.

Medizin-Heute.net does not articulate a corrections policy and NewsGuard did not find corrections on the site.

NewsGuard did not receive a response to two emails sent to the site’s general email address seeking comment on its editorial standards, including its publishing of false or unsubstantiated health claims, misleading headlines, and its approach to corrections.

Transparency

Although the site’s Imprint page names a company as its owner, NewsGuard was unable to confirm the existence of the company from registration records or any other source, and the phone number listed on the site did not connect to that company. Therefore, NewsGuard has determined that Medizin-heute.net does not meet the standard for disclosing ownership.

Articles are attributed to pseudonyms such as “Petra,” “Medicus,” and “Davinci.” The site does not identify its editorial leadership or content creators.

The site regularly features content resembling articles that link to online shops selling products mentioned in articles, such as CBD oils. These advertisements are not labeled as such.

NewsGuard did not receive a response to two emails sent to the site's general email address seeking comment on its lack of information about ownership, editorial leadership, and content creators, as well as its use of unlabeled advertisements.

History

The site was registered in January 2019.

Editor's Note: This Nutrition Label was updated on March 16, 2020.

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

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