

snap4face.com

An anonymously run website covering politics and health that has published false and misleading health claims, including about COVID-19 and vaccines.



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

Score: 7.5/100

Ownership and Financing

The website does not disclose its owner. The site has a possible connection with the conspiratorial site News-for-Friends.de, which the Austrian fact-checking site Mimikama has referred to as a "partner site" of Snap4Face.com. Using an Internet "fingerprinting" tool, NewsGuard found that the two sites share each other's content on Facebook.

News-For-Friends.de's ownership is also unclear. The site lists Rafael Valentin in Moscow as its owner. However, the website's Facebook page lists a person named M. Valentin in Asunción, Paraguay, as the owner.

The site runs advertisements.

-  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)

Content

Snap4Face.com covers health, politics, and the environment, organized in sections including News, Health (Gesundheit), Health Tips (Gesundheitstipps), Mother Nature (Mutter Natur), Moving (Bewegend), and Unbelievable (Unglaublich).

The Health section includes subsections for coverage of vaccines and the chemtrails conspiracy theory, which contends that condensation trails left in the sky by aircraft contain dangerous chemicals that governments produce to target people and the environment. (There is no evidence for such claims, and scientists who have evaluated claims of a clandestine atmospheric spraying program have said they are unsupported.)

Typical articles have run under headlines including "Mysterious black rain falls on Japanese city days after a heavy thunderstorm" ("Geheimnisvoller schwarzer Regen fällt an japanischen Stadttagen nach heftigem Gewitter"); "Big cities fight against carcinogenic 5G technology" ("Großstädte kämpfen gegen krebserregende 5G-Technologie"); and "Fukushima has contaminated the entire pacific" ("Fukushima hat den gesamten Pazifik kontaminiert").

Criteria are listed in order of importance.

[More information.](#)

The site does not explain its name, which is rendered in English, but it may be a reference to Snapchat and Facebook.

Credibility

Articles on the site do not typically rely on original reporting. Instead, the site draws on content from other media outlets, including credible news sources such as Spiegel and Süddeutsche Zeitung. However, the site frequently cites or reposts articles from websites that NewsGuard has found to be unreliable, including Indexexpurgatorius.Wordpress.com, BeforeItsNews.com, and NaturalNews.com.

Snap4Face.com itself has published false health claims and advanced conspiracy theories.

For example, a March 2020 article titled "There would be no coronavirus-epidemic without 5G" ("Ohne 5G gäbe es keine Coronavirus-Epidemie") suggested that 5G radiation caused the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus in Wuhan, China. According to the article, "In fact, China introduced 5G in the Wuhan province in October 2019. Only two months later, the city was struck by a new type of coronavirus called CoVid-19.... Does 5G cause severe inflammation that damages the innate immune system? ... Has the launch of 5G in Wuhan China helped to facilitate the outbreak of this deadly bioweapon?"

There is no reliable evidence that the COVID-19 virus is a "bioweapon," as the article suggested, nor is there any evidence that 5G is connected to the outbreak. According to a January 2020 article published by U.K. fact-checking organization FullFact.org, there is no evidence that 5G can damage people's immune systems. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration states on its website that "to date, there is no consistent or credible scientific evidence of health problems caused by the exposure to radio frequency energy emitted by cell phones."

A February 2020 article titled "Bill Gates funded the PIRBRIGHT Institute, which holds a patent on the coronavirus" ("Bill Gates finanzierte Das PIRBRIGHT Institute, Das ein Patent auf das Coronavirus besitzt") claimed, "Believe it or not, a coronavirus strain is patented by The Pirbright Institute, which is partially funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation." According to the article, "The way this whole

coronavirus situation is taking shape seems to be exactly what Gates once proposed as a 'solution' to the alleged problem of 'overpopulation.' In a notorious TED talk, Gates explained that vaccines are one of the keys to reducing the global population, and what better way to do this than to unleash a patented coronavirus into the masses and later introduce a patented vaccine for it?"

The article was a translation of an article first published on the site HumansAreFree.com, which NewsGuard has rated unreliable. A transcript of the referenced 2010 TED Talk shows that while Bill Gates stated that "new vaccines, health care, reproductive health services" combined could slow population growth and thus CO2 emissions, he did not make any claims about reducing the global population, nor is there any evidence that Gates views the coronavirus as a way to address "overpopulation."

Moreover, the patent held by the Pirbright Institute is not related to the virus responsible for the 2020 outbreak. It is true that the U.K.-based Pirbright Institute has accepted funding from the Gates Foundation and holds a patent on a strain of coronavirus, but that strain only affects chickens, not humans. "Pirbright does not currently work with human coronaviruses," the institute said in a January 2020 post on its website responding to the patent claims.

A January 2020 article titled "Deliberately inserted cancer cells discovered in vaccines (MMR)" ("Gezielt eingebrachte Krebszellen in Impfstoffen (MMR) entdeckt") claimed that "Groundbreaking research from Italy has uncovered shocking new details about the aborted human fetal cell lines used in many of today's childhood vaccines. Vaccines [are] deliberately made with hundreds of cancer genes to ensure repeat business for big pharma."

It is true that some vaccines, including those protecting against rubella and chicken pox, are produced using cell lines descended from two fetuses aborted in the 1960s, according to a January 2017 article in Science magazine. However, no additional fetal cells are required for vaccine production, and no actual fetal tissue is present in these vaccines, Science reported.

The National Catholic Bioethics Center, which consults with the Vatican and Catholics on medical ethics issues and opposes abortion, has stated that "one cannot accurately say that the vaccines contain any of the cells from the original abortion."

The study referenced in the Snap4Face.com article, which was published by the Italian anti-vaccination group Corvelva, claimed that these initial cell lines included cancer-causing genes. However, there is no evidence backing this claim in that study — which did not explain its methodology — or elsewhere.

A December 2019 article, headlined "US Air Force pilot reveals top secret chemtrail program - it's called 'Operation Indigo Skyfold'" ("US Air Force Pilot Enthüllt Streng Geheimes Chemtrail-Programm – Es Heißt 'Operation Indigo Skyfold'"), claimed that "a secret chemtrail pilot" had spoken out "for the first time in modern history." The article stated, "This courageous military pilot reveals the false justification for the obviously illegal and highly toxic chemtrail spraying of the skies across America that has been going on for decades - 'National Security.'" The article did not identify the pilot and relied on a YouTube video from an anonymous account, in which the narrator claims to have been in touch with a person whose cousin knows the Air Force pilot.

There is no evidence that the condensation released by airplanes is part of some secret government program. In a 2016 article published in the journal *Environmental Research Letters*, 76 out of 77 atmospheric chemists and geochemists who evaluated evidence of a clandestine atmospheric spraying program said that these claims were unsupported.

An October 2019 article titled "Chemical expert: Carbon dioxide cannot cause global warming" ("Chemieexperte: Kohlendioxid kann keine globale Erwärmung verursachen") claimed that CO₂ does not influence global warming. "Why on earth do we attribute ocean warming to carbon dioxide when there is a much more obvious reason, and such a simple study of thermodynamics makes it impossible?," the article stated. "The influence of the sun is direct, obvious and instantaneous. If the enormous influence of the sun on our climate is so obvious, by what

madness do we look at a fraction of a percent variation in any of these variables and not consider the sun as the cause?"

Multiple scientific studies and government agencies have concluded for years that the world's temperatures are rising, attributing the increase to rising carbon dioxide levels that are caused at least in part by human activities. The German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) states on its website: "The currently observed climate change is largely caused by human" activity, which "inevitably releases carbon dioxide." NASA has rebutted claims that the sun is the main cause of climate change, stating that "the sun can influence the Earth's climate, but it isn't responsible for the warming trend we've seen over the past few decades." According to NASA: "The warming is too large to be caused by solar activity."

Because Snap4Face.com has frequently published false and misleading information, NewsGuard has determined that the site repeatedly publishes false claims and deceptive headlines and that it does not gather and present information responsibly.

Snap4Face.com does not disclose an agenda or orientation. But articles in a section titled News frequently include opinionated content.

For example, a March 2020 article titled "Q News - Think Mirror: The end of the global dominance of the three families?" ("Q News - Think Mirror: Das Ende der globalen Dominanz der drei Familien?") stated, "Unfortunately, we may have to shut down the globe temporarily in order to shut down the global elites permanently! ... May the Lord help all those who defeat globalist evil!"

A February 2020 article, titled "Chinese officials loot local shops for supplies and leave the citizens empty-handed. The same scene could soon come to your nation" ("Chinesische Beamte plündern lokale Geschäfte für Vorräte und lassen die Bürger mit leeren Händen zurück. Dieselbe Szene könnte bald in Ihre Nation kommen"), stated that "when times become desperate, those in authority always impose their will on the powerless. So the lesson, even in America, is:

Always be prepared for contingencies, because your government will not take care of your needs, especially if it is a national emergency."

Another February 2020 article, headlined "US consumers were thrilled by cheap Chinese imports, but the coronavirus will soon reveal what a HUGE mistake that was" ("Die US-Konsumenten waren von billigen chinesischen Importen begeistert, aber das Coronavirus wird bald enthüllen, was für ein RIESIGER Fehler dies war") stated: "For more than two decades, terrible trade agreements and political intervention have given China an enormous economic advantage over the USA."

Because Snap4Face.com does not disclose a political orientation, yet regularly publishes opinionated content in news articles, NewsGuard has determined that the site does not handle the difference between news and opinion responsibly.

Snap4Face does not articulate a corrections policy, and NewsGuard did not find corrections on the site.

NewsGuard used the site's general email address to inquire about the articles cited above and about the site's editorial practices, including the site's approach to corrections and its mixing of news and opinion. An unidentified representative of the site answered NewsGuard's email in Russian; the response were translated by NewsGuard as follows:

"You will join George Soros in misinforming people, spreading wars, you will spread diseases, you will spread lies, but soon it will be over, love for God is great, and you will see everything at the end. There will come a day when you have to be responsible for everything you do that is highly criminal, you do not have the power to unite criminals led by corrupt politicians. Soon it will be over, I am a citizen of Russia and I have filed a criminal complaint against you in the European Court and the crisis court in Russia, you are violating human rights!!!"

Transparency

The website does not disclose any information about its ownership or editorial leadership. The site's Contact page provides a general email address.

Articles do not typically include the name of the writer, and the site does not provide contact or biographical information for its content creators.

Advertisements are distinguishable from editorial content.

The unidentified representative who responded to NewsGuard in Russian did not address NewsGuard's questions about the site's lack of disclosure regarding ownership, editorial leadership, and content creators.

History

According to Whois domain records, the site was registered in November 2017.

Written by: [Karin König](#)

Edited by: [Marie Richter](#), [Eric Efron](#), [Florian Meißner](#)

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

Sources

Ownership and Financing

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Example headlines:

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Credibility

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Transparency

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Content creators:

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History

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