

# Misinformation & Media Literacy

Navigating the COVID-19 “Infodemic”



Produced by NewsGuard with help from members of its Board of News Literacy Advisors: Belinha De Abreu, global media literacy educator, and Sarah Morris, Head of Instruction and Engagement at Emory University

# Part 1:

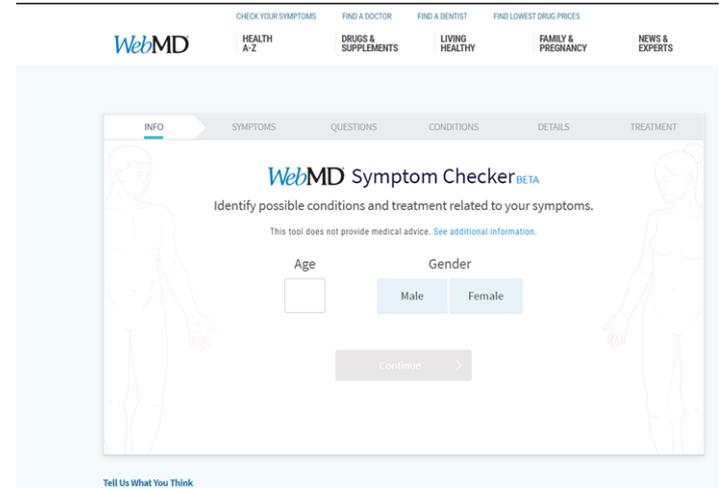
## Coronavirus Conspiracies & Other Health Hoaxes



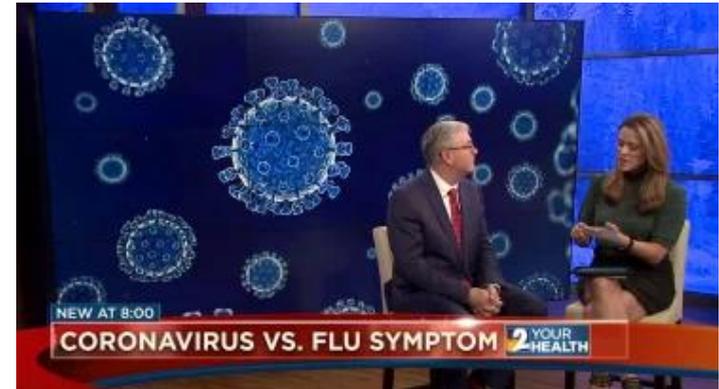
# Let's take a poll

If you feel sick and you're looking up your symptoms, where do you turn to first?

- What sources?
- How do you access them?



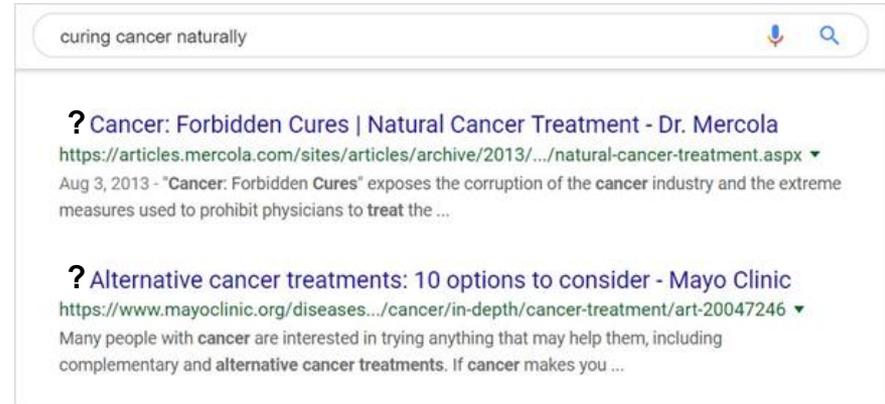
The screenshot shows the WebMD Symptom Checker interface. At the top, there are navigation links: CHECK YOUR SYMPTOMS, FIND A DOCTOR, FIND A DENTIST, FIND LOWEST DRUG PRICES, HEALTH A-Z, DRUGS & SUPPLEMENTS, LIVING HEALTHY, FAMILY & PREGNANCY, and NEWS & EXPERTS. Below these is the WebMD logo. The main content area has tabs for INFO, SYMPTOMS, QUESTIONS, CONDITIONS, DETAILS, and TREATMENT. The 'SYMPTOMS' tab is active. The page title is 'WebMD Symptom Checker BETA'. Below the title, it says 'Identify possible conditions and treatment related to your symptoms.' and 'This tool does not provide medical advice. See additional information.' There are input fields for 'Age' and 'Gender' (with 'Male' and 'Female' buttons). A 'Continue' button is at the bottom. The page is flanked by two human silhouettes. At the bottom left, it says 'Tell Us What You Think'.



# When you see health news on social media or in a Google search, all the sources look the same.

Do you always know who's behind the headline?

- Is it a credible source?
- Is it a group with a hidden agenda?
- Do they work for a company trying to get you to buy a product?



# Quiz time: Which sources would you trust?

- [Medicine-Today.net](http://Medicine-Today.net)
- [Patient.info](http://Patient.info)
- [MedicineNet.com](http://MedicineNet.com)
- [HealthyChildren.org](http://HealthyChildren.org)
- [Vaccination.co.uk](http://Vaccination.co.uk)
- [ChildrensHealthDefense.org](http://ChildrensHealthDefense.org)

# Quiz Answers: Which sources would you trust?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
|  Medicine-Today.net |  Patient.info               |
|  MedicineNet.com    |  HealthyChildren.org        |
|  Vaccination.co.uk  |  ChildrensHealthDefense.org |

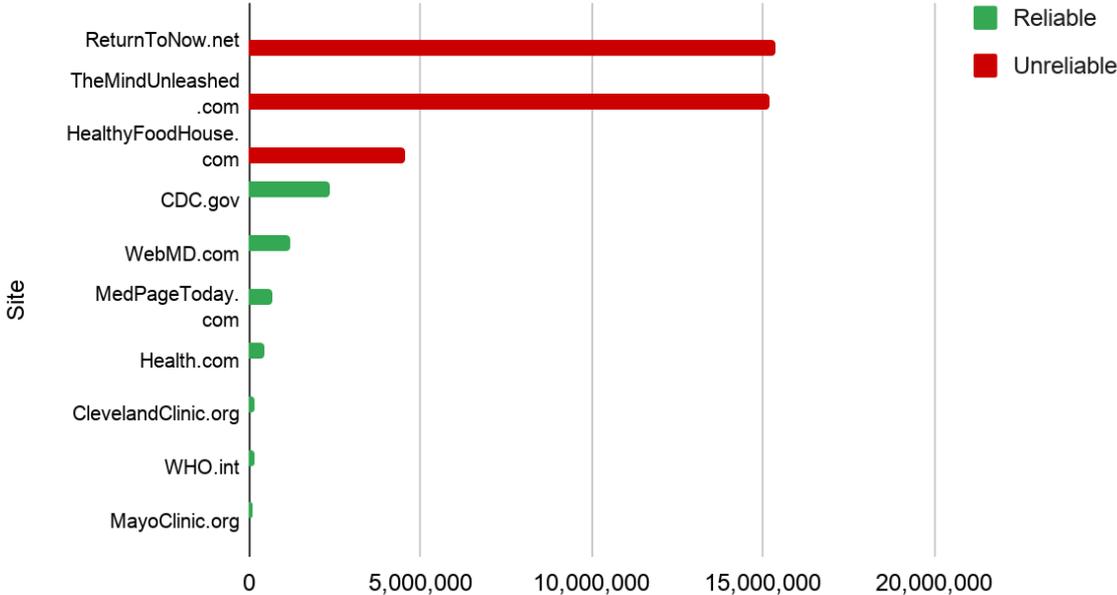
# The internet is full of health misinformation

11% of the news and information websites Americans rely on publish misinformation about health, such as false claims about vaccines, cancer, and diabetes.

11%

# Health misinformation is popular on social media

Health Information Website Engagement Over 90 Days



Websites publishing health misinformation receive more engagement (likes, comments, shares) on social media than those publishing accurate health information

Source: Newswhip engagement data for websites over 90-day period preceding April 12, 2020

# The Coronavirus “Infodemic”

“The 2019-nCoV outbreak and response has been accompanied by a massive ‘infodemic’ - an **over-abundance of information** – some accurate and some not – that **makes it hard for people to find trustworthy sources and reliable guidance when they need it.**”

— The World Health Organization’s Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV)  
Situation Report - 13

# The top COVID-19 myths: False claims about its origin

- MYTH: “The COVID-19 virus was stolen out of a Canadian lab by Chinese spies.”
  - REALITY: Although two Chinese scientists were escorted out of a Canadian lab last July, they left for administrative reasons, and their work had nothing to do with the coronavirus.
- MYTH: “A group funded by Bill Gates patented the COVID-19 virus.”
  - REALITY: The group in question did receive funding from the Gates Foundation — a philanthropic organization — but its work does not have anything to do with the COVID-19 virus.
- MYTH: “5G cell phone technology is linked to the coronavirus outbreak.”
  - REALITY: Many scientists and public health institutions have repeatedly found that 5G technology does not pose a risk to human health.



Infowars, Shutterstock

# The top COVID-19 myths: Phony cures

- MYTH: “Colloidal silver can cure COVID-19.”
  - REALITY: Colloidal (liquid) silver does not treat any disease, and, in fact, the government has warned that it can cause health problems.
- MYTH: “Garlic can cure COVID-19.”
  - REALITY: there is no evidence from the 2020 outbreak that eating garlic has protected people from the new strain of coronavirus.
- MYTH: “High doses of vitamin C have proven to be an effective treatment for COVID-19.”
  - REALITY: Scientific studies are underway to determine if there is any truth to this claim, but the dosage being studied is 60 times higher than the typical amount of vitamin C that most people have in their diet.



*Infowars, Shutterstock, GNC*

Read more at <https://www.newsguardtech.com/covid-19-myths/>

## The top COVID-19 myths: Who spreads it?

- NewsGuard tracks the websites spreading false information about COVID-19 in its **Coronavirus Misinformation Tracking Center**
- NewsGuard has identified **more than 185** different websites in the U.S., France, Germany, Italy, and the U.K...
- ...and that's not even counting the false Tweets, memes, Facebook posts, WhatsApp messages, chain emails, etc....

185+

Websites publish  
false information  
about COVID-19

## The top COVID-19 myths: What are the motivations?



Money



Entertainment



Power



Sloppiness

## Other COVID-19 online threats: Scammers and malware

- Online scammers often use current events, like the coronavirus, to trick people into giving personal information like credit card details
- The security company Trend Micro has tracked dozens of examples of this practice, with sites using suspicious URLs like:
  - cdc-coronavirus[.]com
  - CoronaDetection[.]com
  - buycoronavirusfacemasks[.]com



*This website, Uk-covid-19-relieve[.]com, claimed to be a local UK government website promising financial aid for citizens if they entered their credit card information*

# Part 2:

## Evaluating Sources



# Cancer.Net vs. Cancer.News: Which source would you trust?

The screenshot shows the Cancer.Net website. At the top, there are navigation links for "ASCO.org", "Conquer Cancer", "ASCO Journals", and a "Donate" button. The main header features the "Cancer.Net" logo and the tagline "Doctor-Approved Patient Information from ASCO®". Below this is a navigation menu with categories like "Types of Cancer", "Navigating Cancer Care", "Coping With Cancer", "Research and Advocacy", "Survivorship", "Blog", and "About Us". A large banner image depicts a doctor in a white coat talking to an elderly couple. A search bar is positioned below the banner. The "FEATURED CONTENT" section displays three article thumbnails. At the bottom, a cookie consent banner is visible with "Cookie Settings" and "Accept Cookies" options.

The screenshot shows the Cancer.News website. The header features the "CANCER.NEWS" logo and a navigation menu with categories: "SCIENCE", "FOOD", "HEALTH", "MEDICINE", "POLLUTION", "CANCER", and "CLIMATE". A search bar is located on the right side of the header. The main content area is divided into three columns. The left column is titled "NEWS ON CANCER SOLUTIONS" and features a large image of green juice with a headline: "Green barley shows potential anti-cancer activity against colon cancer". The middle column is titled "NEWS ON CANCER CAUSES" and lists several articles, including "America continues to use 100 herbicides and pesticides that are BANNED in other countries" and "7 Reasons why 5G is a threat to overall health". The right column is titled "POPULAR ARTICLES" and lists articles such as "Candy carcinogens: Petroleum-based additives are being used in popular children's candy" and "The sickening truth about disinfecting wipes: They are made from toxic ingredients that can cause cancer".

# One method for evaluating sources: NewsGuard's criteria

NewsGuard is a company run by journalists that fights misinformation by providing ratings of the reliability of sources. Its analysts rate sources by assessing their **credibility** and **transparency**.

## Credibility

- Does not repeatedly publish false content
- Gathers and presents information responsibly
- Regularly corrects or clarifies errors
- Handles the difference between news and opinion responsibly
- Avoids deceptive headlines

## Transparency

- Discloses ownership and financing
- Clearly labels advertising
- Reveals who's in charge, including any possible conflicts of interest
- Provides the name of content creators, along with either contact information or biographical information

# Cancer.Net vs. Cancer.News: What does NewsGuard say?

**cancer.net** NewsGuard

 This website mostly adheres to basic standards of credibility and transparency.

A cancer information website owned by a nonprofit that represents oncologists and other medical professionals.

Score: 77.5/100 [See the full Nutrition Label →](#)

CREDIBILITY	TRANSPARENCY
 Does not repeatedly publish false content	 Website discloses ownership and financing
 Gathers and presents information responsibly	<b>N/A</b> Clearly labels advertising
 Regularly corrects or clarifies errors	 Reveals who's in charge, including any possible conflicts of interest
 Handles the difference between news and opinion responsibly	 The site provides names of content creators, along with either contact or biographical information
 Avoids deceptive headlines	

**NaturalNews.com website network** NewsGuard

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

A network of sites promoting both medical and non-medical conspiracy theories, particularly the false claim that vaccines are linked to autism.

Score: 5/100 [See the full Nutrition Label →](#)

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

# NewsGuard's Nine Criteria:

## Credibility

# 1. Does the site repeatedly publish false content?

**NewsGuard's Standard:** The site does not repeatedly produce stories that have been found—either by journalists at NewsGuard or elsewhere—to be clearly and significantly false, and which have not been quickly and prominently corrected.

- While many websites periodically make mistakes, sites that do not promptly correct those errors may be intentionally trying to misinform readers.
- False stories on health sites can range from inaccurate, potentially dangerous health claims to conspiracy theories related to health or medicine.



## Organic Home Remedies

Oncologists Won't Tell You That Baking Soda Treats Cancer Just Because It'll Cut Down The Profits Of Big Pharma!

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This article claimed that eating baking soda will cure cancer, but this is not true.

## 2. Does the site gather and present information responsibly?

**NewsGuard's Standard: Content providers are generally fair and accurate in reporting and presenting information. They reference multiple sources, preferably those that present direct, firsthand information on a subject or event or from credible second hand news sources, and they do not egregiously distort or misrepresent information to make an argument or report on a subject.**

### Gathering information

News websites gather information in various different ways:

- Conducting original reporting
  - Named sources vs anonymous sources
- Citing other sources
- Republishing articles from wire services

### Presenting information

Information presented irresponsibly might commit one of the following missteps:

- Misstate facts
- Misquote sources
- Violate journalistic ethics
- Distort information (cherry picking or omitting key details.)
- Rely on anecdotal evidence

# Anya Vien

[HOME](#)[BLOG](#)[ABOUT](#)[WORK WITH ME](#)[SHOP](#)[DISCLAIMER](#)

## SHE WAS 60 YEARS OLD AND NO GRAY HAIR. THE SECRET IS THIS BEVERAGE

March 19, 2019 / by Anya / 1 Comment



When Ann Wigmore was in her 50s, she was going through a lot of health problems and her hair suddenly turned all gray. Determined to restore her health, she started drinking a lot of green smoothies and a shot of wheatgrass daily. Interestingly, after a short period of time, her health was restored and her hair started turning back to its natural color.

This article relies solely on one woman's story to claim that wheatgrass can change a person's hair color.

### 3. Does the site regularly correct or clarify errors?

**NewsGuard's Standard:** The site makes clear how to report an error or complaint, has effective practices for publishing clarifications and corrections, and notes corrections in a transparent way.

Even the most conscientious news outlets make mistakes. Correcting errors can be what separates responsible sites from those that purposely spread false information.

- **Corrections:** When a site updates a story to fix a mistake.
- **Retractions:** When a site removes a story from its site.



## What is hypermobility syndrome?

### EDITOR'S NOTE

[Dr Sarah Jarvis](#), 9th October 2019.

It has been brought to our attention that in the original version of this article, we referred to joint hypermobility syndrome, a term which has been replaced by the term [hypermobility spectrum disorders \(HSD\)](#), which includes [Ehlers-Danlos](#), and mentioned that hEDS is sometimes referred to as type 3 EDS, which is no longer the case.

We apologise for this oversight and have now updated the article to its current form.

## 4. Does the site handle the difference between news and opinion responsibly?

**NewsGuard's Standard:** Content providers who convey the impression that they report news or a mix of news and opinion distinguish opinion from news reporting, and when reporting news, do not egregiously cherry pick facts or stories to advance opinions. Content providers who advance a particular point of view disclose that point of view.

- Some websites only publish opinion stories, and others only publish news. Most sites fall somewhere in the middle.
- Is opinion content **labeled** and **in a separate section**?
- What is the site's **point of view**? Does the site **disclose** this point of view?
- Does the site **editorialize** or **cherry pick**?

opinion BLOG  
EDITORIAL  
Commentary  
Letter to the Editor  
Our Perspective

## 5. Does the site avoid deceptive headlines?

**NewsGuard's Standard:** The site generally does not publish headlines that include false information, significantly sensationalize, or do not reflect what is actually in the story.

- A headline tells a reader what's in the story before he or she decides to read it. Some websites use exaggerated headlines that distort the facts in a story to entice people into clicking and reading an article.

- Deceptive headlines are dangerous because people may only skim headlines they encounter online, and not take the time to read the articles.

### Secret To Defeating Coronavirus By April Revealed

28,113 views · Mar 30, 2020



The Alex Jones Show

# NewsGuard's Nine Criteria:

## Transparency

## 6. Does the site disclose its ownership and financing?

**NewsGuard's Standard:** The site discloses its ownership and/or financing, as well as any notable ideological or political positions held by those with a significant financial interest in the site, in a user-friendly manner.

### Types of website owners:

- Individuals
- Companies
- Nonprofit groups
- Governments

### Website sources of financing:

- Advertisements & sponsored content
- Subscriptions
- Selling merchandise and hosting events
- Donations
- Funds from their owner

organicconsumers.org NewsGuard

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

The website of the Organic Consumers Association, an advocacy group that has promoted the debunked link between vaccines and autism and published conspiracy theories about Sept. 11.

[See the full Nutrition Label →](#)

CREDIBILITY	TRANSPARENCY
 Does not repeatedly publish false content	 Website discloses ownership and financing
 Gathers and presents information responsibly	 Clearly labels advertising
 Regularly corrects or clarifies errors	 Reveals who's in charge, including any possible conflicts of interest
<b>N/A</b> Handles the difference between news and opinion responsibly	 The site provides names of content creators, along with either contact or biographical information
 Avoids deceptive headlines	

**Not all sites ending in “.org” are reliable.**

This site has promoted false claims about vaccines and conspiracy theories.

# 7. Does the site clearly label advertising?

**NewsGuard's Standard:** The site makes clear which content is paid for and which is not.

- **Advertisements:** Pictures and messages that promote a product or service
  - **Sponsored content:** Stories that resemble news articles but are paid for by a company to promote its products or services
  - **Affiliate marketing:** When a website promotes a product or service and makes money if users buy that product
- Some advertisements are designed to resemble stories and trick a user into clicking.

## A Quick Note from Our Founder

I don't often align myself with products but this is one that I just had to share!

Some of you may already know years ago, I was diagnosed with **Multiple Sclerosis**.

I can still recall what it felt like to have my life change overnight...

I went from an Executive Director of a non-profit organization, running marathons, rock climbing, hiking canyons and kayaking to being completely bedridden and staring at a wall for 15 hours a day.

Of course, I went to see many doctors but unfortunately I didn't find the help I needed. So, I had to set off on my own journey to learn my true path to healing.

I'd pretty much turned-over every rock trying to find relief for my pain, sleep issues and myriad of other symptoms...

*Fast-forward 18 years.*



I was determined to climb one of the true wonders of the natural world, Machu Picchu, the mystical home of the Incas in Peru.

It was there, after a grueling day when my feet, knees, legs, and lower back hurt so bad, that I thought I would have to abandon hopes of our next climb which was Rainbow Mountain! That night I pulled out a little spray bottle of "aceite de magnesio" that a friend had given me before I left on my trip.

What the heck, I thought, I was desperate. And I applied it all over my body before bed.

Because of the grueling day, I woke up expecting to be immobilized, but instead we were off to climb Rainbow Mountain and...I was **totally pain-free!**

I know it sounds impossible, but it's 1000% the truth.



**BUY NOW**

**Deceptive advertising:**  
**Healthy-Holistic-Living.com**  
Clicking "Buy Now" leads to the website of a business **owned by the founder** of Healthy-Holistic-Living.com

# 8. Does the site reveal who's in charge?

**NewsGuard's Standard: Information about those in charge of the content is made accessible on the site.**

- Owners, editors and publishers should be named, providing biographical and contact information, so that they can be held accountable for their site.
- Readers should be able to understand why someone might have created a site, and what might be their motivation.
- Those in charge should be easy to contact so they can receive feedback.

About WebMD >

## Who We Are

### Meet the Doctors



**John Whyte, MD, MPH**  
Chief Medical Officer



**Michael Smith, MD, MBA, CPT**  
Chief Medical Director



**Brunilda Nazario, MD, BC-ADM**  
Lead Medical Director



**Hansa Bhargava, MD**  
Senior Medical Director



**Arefa Cassoobhoy, MD, MPH**  
Senior Medical Director



**Neha Pathak, MD**  
Medical Editor

The WebMD Medical Team works closely with a team of over 100 nationwide doctors and health experts across a broad range of specialty areas to ensure WebMD's content is up to date, accurate, and helps you live a healthier life.

### Senior Editorial Staff



**Kristy Hammam**  
Senior Vice President, Content & Programming



**Stephanie Snipes**  
Vice President, Editorial Development



**Annic Jobin**  
Vice President, News & Partnerships



**Tom Roseberry**  
Senior Director, Audience Growth



**Valarie Basheda**  
Director, News & Special Reports



**Colleen Parety**  
Editorial Director, WebMD Magazine

## 9. Does the site provide information about its content creators?

**NewsGuard's Standard:** Information about those producing the content — including either contact or biographical information — is made accessible on the site.

- Stories should be credited to an author, using their real name, or the site should identify its editorial staff.
- Websites should provide contact information for their authors and editors so readers can ask questions and make complaints
- Content creators should list bios revealing their backgrounds and any conflicts of interest with what they report.

### The New Cannabis Capsule Is So Powerful It Can Replace Any Pain Killer

🕒 March 25, 2019 | 📁 Health | 💬 0 | 👤 hfadmin

# Part 3:

## Evaluating Claims



# Evaluating Claims: A step-by-step guide



I heard about this coronavirus cure on Facebook! Is it true?

# Evaluating Claims: A step-by-step guide

## 1. What's the source?

 Sarah Brandt  
Just now ·  

Wow! The secret to curing coronavirus is getting Vitamin C in an IV!



[NATURALHEALTH365.COM](https://www.naturalhealth365.com) 

**Vitamin C Successfully Treats COVID-19 Patients | NaturalHealth365**

 Like     Comment     Share

# Evaluating Claims: A step-by-step guide

naturalhealth365.com 

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

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A website covering alternative medicine and natural health, which has repeatedly promoted false claims about vaccines and the Wuhan coronavirus.

Score: 0/100 [See the full Nutrition Label →](#)

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

## 1. What's the source?

# Evaluating Claims: A step-by-step guide



1. What's the source?

2. What do other sources say?

# Evaluating Claims: A step-by-step guide

## Successful vitamin C treatment of patients with COVID-19 infection

by: Jonathan Landsman

March 30, 2020



(NaturalHealth365) Recently, the [New York Post](#) reported how vitamin C was being used “*successfully*” by a physician at a New York hospital. But, the overall media coverage of this news has been mild – to say the least.



To make matters worse, I know of many healthcare providers that are still unclear about [how much vitamin C](#) is necessary or how often the amounts should be given – especially as it relates to helping someone infected with the coronavirus.

But, just in case you still have doubts about the effectiveness of vitamin C against viruses, please read carefully this press release (below) by the Orthomolecular Medicine News Service.

## Will the media or conventional medicine ever fully understand the significance of vitamin C?

(Press Release) A group of medical doctors, healthcare providers and scientists met online March 17, 2020, to discuss the use of high dose intravenous vitamin C (IVC) in the treatment of moderate to severe cases of Covid-19 patients. The key guest was Dr. Enqian Mao, chief of emergency medicine department at Ruijin Hospital, a major hospital in Shanghai, affiliated with the Joatong University College of Medicine. Dr. Mao is also a member of the Senior Expert Team at the Shanghai Public Health Center, where all Covid-19 patients have been treated. In addition, Dr. Mao co-authored the Shanghai Guidelines for the Treatment of Covid-19 Infection, an official document endorsed by the Shanghai Medical Association and the Shanghai city government.

1. What’s the source?

2. What do other sources say?

3. What’s the date?

# Evaluating Claims: A step-by-step guide

NEWS ▾ VIDEOS PODCASTS SHOP

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## Percent of patients with COVID-19 infection

Recently, the [New York Post](#) reported how vitamin C was "lily" by a physician at a New York hospital. But, the overall news has been mild – to say the least.

... I know of many healthcare providers that are still unclear about how necessary or how often the amounts should be given – especially as it relates to coronavirus.

... the effectiveness of vitamin C against viruses, please read carefully from the [National Medical News Service](#).

### Additional medicine ever fully understand the

... healthcare providers and scientists met online March 17, 2020, to discuss the use of vitamin C (IVC) in the treatment of moderate to severe cases of Covid-19. Dr. Mao is also a member of the Shanghai Public Health Center, where all Covid-19 patients have been treated. He is also a member of the Shanghai Guidelines for the Treatment of Covid-19 Infection, an official guideline of the Shanghai Association and the Shanghai city government.



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Vitamin C Powder

- > China Free
- > Gluten Free
- > Ultra-Fine Powder
- > Free of GMO's
- > Dissolves Instantly In Liquid

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**MOST POPULAR**

This Week All Time

- 1 Suspicious activity: Bill Gates reveals a plan to issue "Certificates" for COVID patients
- 2 Ventilator Alert: NYC doctor issues a warning to all healthcare providers
- 3 Disconnected: What COVID-19 is doing to the food supply chain
- 4 Dr. Richard Cheng discusses optimal daily vitamin C intake

1. What's the source?

2. What do other sources say?

3. What's the date?

4. What's the motivation?

# Part 4:

Exercise

 **NewsGuard**

# Your turn to rate a website!



Divide into four groups. Each group will evaluate one of the four websites, starting by evaluating the transparency criteria, and moving to credibility, if you have time.

1. Health.com
2. MedicalNewsToday.com
3. HomeNaturalCures.com
4. DoctorDavidFriedman.com

## NewsGuard's Criteria

### CREDIBILITY

1. Does not repeatedly publish false content
2. Gathers and presents information responsibly
3. Regularly corrects or clarifies errors
4. Handles the difference between news and opinion responsibly
5. Avoids deceptive headlines

### TRANSPARENCY

1. Discloses ownership and financing
2. Clearly labels advertising
3. Reveals who's in charge, including any possible conflicts of interest
4. Provides the names of content creators, along with either contact or biographical information

# What did NewsGuard think?

health.com

 NewsGuard



This website mostly adheres to basic standards of credibility and transparency.

The website of Health, a magazine covering women's health, fitness, wellness, and beauty.

Score: 82.5/100

[See the full Nutrition Label →](#)

## CREDIBILITY

- ✓ Does not repeatedly publish false content
- ✓ Gathers and presents information responsibly
- ✗ Regularly corrects or clarifies errors
- ✓ Handles the difference between news and opinion responsibly
- ✓ Avoids deceptive headlines

## TRANSPARENCY

- ✓ Website discloses ownership and financing
- ✓ Clearly labels advertising
- ✓ Reveals who's in charge, including any possible conflicts of interest
- ✗ The site provides names of content creators, along with either contact or biographical information

medicalnewstoday.com

 NewsGuard



This website mostly adheres to basic standards of credibility and transparency.

A website that covers medical and health care news for a general audience, including summaries of new research and a directory of diseases.

Score: 87.5/100

[See the full Nutrition Label →](#)

## CREDIBILITY

- ✓ Does not repeatedly publish false content
- ✓ Gathers and presents information responsibly
- ✗ Regularly corrects or clarifies errors
- ✓ Handles the difference between news and opinion responsibly
- ✓ Avoids deceptive headlines

## TRANSPARENCY

- ✓ Website discloses ownership and financing
- ✓ Clearly labels advertising
- ✓ Reveals who's in charge, including any possible conflicts of interest
- ✓ The site provides names of content creators, along with either contact or biographical information

# What did NewsGuard think?

homenaturalcures.com

NewsGuard



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

A website covering natural remedies that has repeatedly published false and unsubstantiated health claims, including stories promoting unproven cures for the COVID-19 virus.

Score: 30/100

[See the full Nutrition Label →](#)

## CREDIBILITY

- ✗ Does not repeatedly publish false content
- ✗ Gathers and presents information responsibly
- ✗ Regularly corrects or clarifies errors
- ✓ Handles the difference between news and opinion responsibly
- ✓ Avoids deceptive headlines

## TRANSPARENCY

- ✗ Website discloses ownership and financing
- ✓ Clearly labels advertising
- ✗ Reveals who's in charge, including any possible conflicts of interest
- ✗ The site provides names of content creators, along with either contact or biographical information

doctordavidfriedman.com

NewsGuard



Proceed with caution: This website fails to meet several basic standards of credibility and transparency.

The website for a North Carolina chiropractor that has promoted misleading and unsubstantiated health claims about the COVID-19 virus and genetically modified foods.

Score: 42/100

[See the full Nutrition Label →](#)

## CREDIBILITY

- ✓ Does not repeatedly publish false content
- ✗ Gathers and presents information responsibly
- ✗ Regularly corrects or clarifies errors
- ✗ Handles the difference between news and opinion responsibly
- ✓ Avoids deceptive headlines

## TRANSPARENCY

- ✗ Website discloses ownership and financing
- ✗ Clearly labels advertising
- ✓ Reveals who's in charge, including any possible conflicts of interest
- ✓ The site provides names of content creators, along with either contact or biographical information

 **NewsGuard**