

ambientebio.it

An anonymously operated health and wellness website that has published false and unsubstantiated claims about the COVID-19 virus.



Proceed with caution: This website severely violates basic journalistic standards.

Score: 12.5/100

Ownership and Financing

It is not clear who owns AmbienteBio.it. According to Whois.com records, the domain was registered by Fabrizio Galli, who owns a marketing and communication company called Cipm, based in Terni.

Galli identifies himself as a content manager for AmbienteBio.it on his LinkedIn profile.

AmbienteBio.it generates revenue from advertisements.

Content

AmbienteBio.it states on its “Our Staff” (“Il nostro staff”) page that the website “is a news portal that embraces the theme of a healthy and virtuous lifestyle” (“è una risorsa informativa che affronta le tematiche relative a uno stile di vita sano e virtuoso”).

The website covers health, science, and wellness, sorting content into sections including Coronavirus, Health (Salute), Organic nutrition (Alimentazione biologica), Environment (Ambiente), and Natural remedy (Rimedi naturali).

Typical headlines include “The list of toxic hand sanitizers withdrawn from the market” (“La lista dei gel mani tossici ritirati dal mercato”); “Here is the first quantum battery” (“Arriva la prima batteria quantica”); and “What happens if we eat too much salt?” (“Cosa succede mangiando troppo sale?”).

-  Does not repeatedly publish false content (22points)
-  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

AmbienteBio.it has repeatedly advanced false claims, including about the COVID-19 pandemic.

For example, a February 2020 article claimed that a Chinese herbal remedy called Qingfei Paidutang could treat COVID-19-related illness. The article titled “Qingfei Paidutang: the concoction of traditional Chinese medicine that fights Coronavirus pneumonia,” (“Qingfei Paidutang: il decotto della medicina tradizionale cinese che combatte la polmonite da Coronavirus”) said, “Coronavirus pneumonia? Qingfei Paidutang proved to be very useful in countering it!”

There is no evidence that Traditional Chinese Medicine methods can treat the COVID-19 virus. According to the World Health Organization and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), there is no specific medicine recommended to prevent or treat the strain of coronavirus that is responsible for the 2020 outbreak.

A March 2020 article headlined “Bill Gates announces that he will implant microchips to fight Covid-19 and to track vaccinations” (“Bill Gates annuncia che impianterà i microchip per combattere il Covid-19 e per tracciare le vaccinazioni”) claimed that Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates has proposed using microchips to track people who have been tested for COVID-19 and who may eventually be vaccinated for the virus. “Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates will launch implantable capsules - also called microchips - for humans who have “digital certificates”; these can show who has been tested for coronavirus and who has been vaccinated against it” (“Il cofondatore di Microsoft Bill Gates lancerà capsule impiantabili – chiamati anche microchip – per l’uomo che hanno “certificati digitali”; questi possono mostrare chi è stato testato per il coronavirus e chi è stato vaccinato contro di esso”).

The article distorted a comment Gates made during an online discussion on the message board Reddit. In response to a question about how businesses should operate during the pandemic, Gates said, “Eventually we will have some digital certificates to show who has recovered or been tested recently or when we have a vaccine who has received it.” Gates did not say that digital certificates would involve “implantable microchips.” The Gates Foundation told Reuters that Gates’ reference to “digital certificates” relates to efforts to create a digital platform “with the goal of expanding access to safe, home-based testing.”

AmbienteBio.it has also claimed without evidence that 5G technology is connected to symptoms of COVID-19. An April 2020 article titled “5G: will our society be able to put the value of health before that of profit?” (“5G: la nostra società riuscirà ad anteporre il valore della salute a quello del profitto?”) said that there is a “possible Coronavirus-5G link, focusing on the calcium channel protein molecule (VGCC), whose propellers act as a voltage sensor for electrical changes across the plasma membrane.”

The article added, “Frequencies have been shown to exacerbate viral replication, spread and lethality of the disease.” (“il possibile nesso Coronavirus-5G, focalizzandosi sulla molecola proteica del canale di calcio (VGCC), le cui eliche agiscono come sensore di tensione ai cambiamenti elettrici attraverso la membrana plasmatica. È stato dimostrato che le frequenze esacerbano la replicazione virale, la diffusione e la letalità della malattia”).

There is no evidence that health effects from the COVID-19 virus are connected to 5G, according to fact-checking articles published in 2020 by FullFact.org and Reuters. A March 2020 report from the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection, a Germany-based organization that studies the health effects of non-ionizing radiation such as radio waves, found no evidence that 5G exposure posed a risk to human health. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration says 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.”

Because AmbienteBio.it frequently publishes articles promoting unverified and false health claims related to the COVID-19 pandemic, NewsGuard has determined that the site repeatedly publishes false content, does not gather and present information responsibly, and does not avoid deceptive headlines.

AmbienteBio.it does not acknowledge an overall point of view, nor does it label any content as opinion. Articles that report news, however, consistently include opinion. For example, a June 2020 article published in the section “Ecocrime” (“Ecoreati”), headlined “Colao’s electromagnetic coup: Stops 516 Italian municipalities’ decision to block the 5G, raising the limit for the radiation at 61 V/m” (“Il colpo di Stato elettromagnetico di Colao: azzera 516 Comuni d’Italia Stop 5G, ordinando l’irradiazione a 61 V/m”) likened Vittorio Colao, who heads the Italian Coronavirus Task Force, to a dictator. “Disguised among the dark sides of 5G, the techno-dictatorship is now showing its true face. Aggressive, ferocious, violent,” the article said, adding that Italy is approaching “a despotic totalitarianism.”

The author of an April 2019 article published in the section Society (Società), headlined “Robert F. Kennedy Jr explains how Big Pharma keeps the US

Congress in check” (“Robert F. Kennedy Jr ci spiega come Big Pharma ha in mano il Congresso USA”), said, “Science is corrupted, altered, changed, and swept under the rug just because it threatens the interests of some powerful people and the companies behind it.”

Because AmbienteBio.it publishes unlabeled opinion articles in sections that report news, NewsGuard has determined that the site does not handle the difference between news and opinion responsibly.

AmbienteBio.it does not disclose a corrections policy and NewsGuard could not find any corrections on the site.

NewsGuard sent three emails to the website’s general email address seeking comment on AmbienteBio.it’s false and unsubstantiated claims about COVID-19, its lack of corrections, and its approach to news and opinion, but did not receive a response.

Transparency

The website does not disclose its ownership, financing, or editorial leaders.

An “Our Staff” (“Il nostro staff”) page lists editorial staff members, although it does not identify an editor in charge. The page also includes a biography, photograph, and email address for individual staffers.

Most articles are credited to individual authors. A Contact (contatti) page lists an email, a phone number, and a web form to contact the newsroom.

Three NewsGuard emails seeking comment from the website on its failure to disclose its owners or editorial leaders did not receive a response.

Advertising is distinguishable from news content.

History

AmbienteBio.it went online in 2011.

Written by: [Angelo Paura](#)

Edited by: [Virginia Padovese](#), [Amy Westfeldt](#), [Giampiero Gramaglia](#)

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

Sources

Ownership and
Financing

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https://www.dnb.com/business-directory/company-profiles/social_web_di_sonia_baldon.22bed041362e6b8e7a5b430b31a0b702.html

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<https://www.linkedin.com/in/fabrizio-galli-46b06221>

Content

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Credibility

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Transparency

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History

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