

COVID-19 Misinformation Challenge

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Introduction: COVID-19 Misinformation Challenge

Day 1: The Virus Goes Viral

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Day 4: Fact or Fiction (Toilet Paper Edition)

Day 5: Science or Science Fiction?

Welcome to Day 5 of the COVID-19 Misinformation Challenge!

This is the final challenge, and a tough one, but we know you're up for it! You may have seen studies making various claims about COVID-19. Some hold up under scrutiny, some are iffy (and controversial), and others have been refuted.

Your Challenge: Determine the Reliability of Research Published About COVID-19

Let's Get Started with the Four Studies Below!

1. Answer each of the questions below, and then click the Submit button to complete your answer. Note: this quiz is anonymous.
2. Click on "View Score" to see what you got right and wrong, plus feedback on the answers. The answer feedback includes links to resources related to each question.

Enjoy!

Day 5: It's a Study or Science Fiction?

Chat with a Librarian

Research is an ongoing process, and information about COVID-19 is changing rapidly. When you look at the studies below, how reliable is each one?

*** Required**

Study 1. "Hydroxychloroquine and azithromycin as a treatment of COVID-19: results of an open-label non-randomized clinical trial," in the International Journal of Antimicrobial Agents *****

1 point

☐ Valid
☐ Controversial
☐ Discredited

Study 2. "An epidemiological investigation of 2019 novel coronavirus diseases through aerosol-borne transmission by public transport," in Practical Preventive Medicine *****

1 point

Relevant Resources and Strategies for this Challenge

• Lateral Reading

You can search Google in strategic ways to see if an article you've come across might have been retracted, withdrawn, or is under additional scrutiny. For example, search for an article title and add words like withdrawn, retracted, or retraction. This is an example of lateral reading, which we learned about in Day 4's Resources and Strategies section.

This link goes into more detail on what lateral reading is, and what it looks like in practice.

• Retraction Watch

Retraction Watch is a scholarly blog whose tagline is, "Tracking retractions as a window into the scientific process." Retraction Watch posts articles about numerous scientific studies that have been retracted, withdrawn, are under investigation, and the like. They also have a searchable database of retractions. This site is extensive but not comprehensive.

Congratulations!

You've completed the COVID-19 Misinformation Challenge! It's been a delight to spend this week with you. We hope you found these activities useful and thought-provoking. Keep in touch!