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News Item

How to debunk COVID-19 conspiracy theories | The Verge

By Justine Calma
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> In the whirlwind of news about the novel coronavirus pandemic, it can be hard to figure out what's a scam or rumor and what's vital information. The ways in which the COVID-19, the disease caused by the novel coronavirus, has transformed the way we work and keep ourselves entertained already feels unreal.
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> To understand why there's so much misinformation out there — for example, that the virus was purposely created in a lab — *The Verge* spoke with John Cook, a cognitive science researcher at George Mason University and one of the authors of a new *Conspiracy Theory Handbook*. A big fan of acronyms, Cook came up with a handy one to recognize when you or someone you know might be headed down a conspiracy theory rabbit hole and how to "inoculate" ourselves and others against it.
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