

News Item

Social media fuels wave of coronavirus misinformation as users focus on popularity, not accuracy | The Conversation

By Jon-Patrick Allem April 6, 2020

Over the past few weeks, misinformation about the new coronavirus pandemic has been spreading across social media at an alarming rate. One video that went <u>viral</u> claimed breathing hot air from a hair dryer could treat COVID-19. A Twitter post <u>touted</u> injecting vitamin C to the bloodstream to treat the viral disease. <u>Other threads</u> hyped unfounded claims that vaping organic oregano oil is effective against the virus, as is using colloidal silver.

The sheer number of false and sometimes dangerous claims is worrying, as is the way people are unintentionally spreading them in ever wider circles.

[...]

Source: Social media fuels wave of coronavirus misinformation as users focus on popularity, not accuracy