

WHO ad-hoc technical consultation on managing the COVID-19 infodemic Geneva, Switzerland and online

7–8 April 2020 (14–17h Geneva time both days)

Provisional programme

Day 1 Tuesday, 7 April 2020, 14:00-17:00 Geneva time. Plenary.

13:50- 14:00	Warm-up slido.com poll
14:00- 14:10	Introduction Welcome by Dr Sylvie Briand, Director, Infectious Hazard Management, WHO; Lead of infodemic management pillar for COVID-19 response
14:10– 15:50	 Session 1: Managing infodemics – what is the new phenomenon? Moderator: Tim Nguyen, Rapporteur: Mark Nunn Multi-faceted and multi-sectoral discussion of the COVID-19 infodemic Challenges, impact, and approaches to infodemic management Towards a WHO framework for infodemic management – Tim Nguyen, World Health Organization Policy-makers' information needs when responding to an infodemic - Viroj Tangcharoensathien, Ministry of Public Health, Thailand AFP digital verification service – Yana Dlugy, AFP Digital Verification, France Challenges and current experience in informing infodemic management – Ève Dubé, Institut national de santé publique du Québec, Canada Connecting people with authoritative health information on Facebook – Athas Nikolakakos and Praveen Raja, Facebook, USA Infodemiology: A Publishers' view (but also as scientist!) - Gunther Eysenbach, JMIR Publications, Canada Infodemiology: the socio-behavioral dimension – Pier Luigi Sacco, IULM University, Italy European Disinfo Lab resources for tackling misinformation about COVID-19 – Alexandre Alaphilippe, EU disinformation lab, Belgium
15:50- 16:00	Break
16:00- 16:15	Invitation for collective contribution of ideas towards a framework for infodemic management at global, national and local levels – <u>sli.do open until next day</u> Moderators: Ioana Ghiga, Alexandra Hill, Dan Hougendobler, Tina Purnat, Judith Van Andel
	• Focus brainstorm ideas on the four areas of infodemic management (Identify evidence;

Simplify knowledge; Amplify action; Quantify impact).

Use Sli.do #infodemic to submit ideas into each of four "rooms" overnight
Suggestions will be summarized and recapped for session 4 next day
Attendees can use slido to submit ideas until next day's session

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Four areas of brainstorm (see sli.do rooms):

- Build on ideas already submitted.
- One idea per "major topic"
- Keep your ideas practical
- Immediate time horizon or longer term
- Approaches and solutions
- Concrete actions or gaps that need to be addressed
- Think what should be the priority actions (keep in mind the mandate and functions of each sector) for: WHO, governments, civil society, academia, media, private sector, etc.

16:15- Session 2: Infodemiology – how can the infodemic be managed, described and measured?

17:15 Moderator: Marcelo D'Agostino, Rapporteur: Mark Nunn

Methods, tools and evidence from the past experience and from COVID-19 pandemic

- fact-checking and relevance analysis, misinformation dynamics
- characterizing social and societal dynamics of infodemic during outbreak
- science of digital and social information flows and analysis in outbreaks
- study of interaction and engagement with COVID-19-related media, web and social media items; analysis of advertising online

Risk communication, misinformation and fact-checking

- 1. Lessons from 2015 MERS-Cov and COVID-19 for infodemic management *Kisoo Park, Korea University College of Medicine, South Korea*
- 2. Misinformation making a disease outbreak worse: outcomes compared for influenza, monkeypox, and norovirus *Julii Brainard*, *Norwich Medical School UEA*, *UK*
- 3. Correction of Global Health Misinformation on Social Media (Zika experience) *Leticia Bode, Georgetown University, USA*
- 4. Supporting the fight against COVID-19 infodemic in SE Asia *Rebecca Petras*, *H2H Network*, *USA/France*
- 5. Canadian misinformation and fact checking portal *Philip Mai and Anatoliy Gruzd*, *Ryerson University*, *Canada*

17:15- Conclusion of Day 1 - *Tina Purnat* 17:20

Day 2 Wednesday, 8 April 2020, 14:00 - 17:00 Geneva time. Plenary.

14:00-	Recap from Day 1 by Tina Purnat
14:10	
14:10-	Session 3: Infodemiology – how can the infodemic be managed, described and measured?
15:20	– continued from previous day
	Moderator: Tina Purnat, Rapporteur: Mark Nunn

Social and behavioural science

- 1. Effective Strategies to Counter Science Denialism in Public—*Philipp Schmid, University of Erfurt, Germany*
- 2. Using social and behavioural science to support COVID-19 pandemic response Jay J. Van Bavel, New York University, USA

Web/social analytics and AI to produce actionable insights and analysis

3. Web/Social media listening and analytics for COVID-19 communication – *Tim Zecchin, Media Measurement, UK*

- 4. Infodemiology: tools for detecting and assessing infodemics *Manlio De Domenico*, Complex Multilayer Networks Lab, FBK – Fondazione Bruno Kessler, Italy
- 5. Social media analytics about COVID-19 in the Americas—Sebastian Garcia Saiso, PAHO/WHO, and Ian Brooks, University of Illinois, USA
- 6. Assessing the similarity between daily news headlines and WHO recommendations *Tavpritesh Sethi, Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology Delhi, India*

15:20- Break

15:30

15:30- Session 4: A framework for managing infodemics (working across whole of society for evidence-informed policy)

Moderator: Tim Nguyen, Rapporteur: Mark Nunn Brainstorm summary: Ioana Ghiga, Alexandra Hill, Daniel Hougendobler, Tina Purnat, Judith Van Andel

- Report back on four areas of brainstorm: Identify evidence; Simplify knowledge; Amplify action; Quantify impact
- Discussion of brainstorm suggestions for an infodemic response framework at global, regional and country level

Panelists:

- Neville Calleja, Ministry of Health, Malta
- Viroj Tangcharoensathien, Ministry of Public Health, Thailand
- TBD

16:50— Conclusions and next steps — *Dr Sylvie Briand* 17:00