List of Known Misinformation and Disinformation Regarding Corona Virus in Social Media IDeaS Center and CASOS Center – Under Direction of Dr. Kathleen M. Carley Last updated 3/20/2020

Stories containing inaccurate information regarding COVID 19 fall into at least three categories:

- Stories relating inaccurate information about cures or preventative measures or treatments that make it worse
- 2) Stories relating inaccurate information about the nature of the virus
- 3) Stories relating inaccurate information that are conspiracy stories
- 4) Stories relating false diagnosis procedures

We note that there are also stories containing inaccurate information with respect to a) the number of deaths, the response effort, and government restrictions. Such stories have not been tracked.

Following is a list of stories of each type.

- 1. Stories relating inaccurate information about cures or preventative measures, or things that make it worse
- gargling with bleach will prevent/cure also appears as satire
- drinking corona beer will prevent/cure also appears as satire
- taking acetic acid will prevent/cure
- taking steroids will prevent/cure
- taking colloidal silver will cure
- taking MMS (which contains chlorine dioxide) can cure
- using essential oils will prevent
- gargling with salt water will prevent/cure
- gargling with ethanol will prevent/cure
- eating raw garlic will prevent
- spraying normal drinking alcohol on body will prevent
- spraying chlorine on body prevents coronavirus
- drinking or washing in sesame oil prevents coronavirus
- using a hand dryer will kill corona virus
- drinking water every 15 minutes will wash virus to the stomach where it will die
- drinking hot water will kill the virus
- avoiding eating ice cream will prevent
- rinsing your nose with saline will prevent
- having a pneumonia shot will prevent you from getting the disease
- having a flu shot will prevent you from getting the disease
- using cocaine prevents/cures
- Asians are more likely to get Covid 19
- Wearing more than one mask will help prevent the virus

- It is dangerous to receive packages from china
- It is dangerous to eat in a Chinese restaurant (more so than other restaurants)
- Cold weather and snow can kill off the SARS CoV 2 virus
- Warmer weather will kill off the SARS CoV 2 virus
- Taking a hot bath prevents COVID 19
- Hand dryers are effective in killing off the SARS CoV 2 virus
- Antibiotics are effective in preventing and treating the SARS CoV 2 virus
- Vinegar is more effective than hand sanitizer
- Hand sanitizer does not work
- Shuanghuanglian (Chinese medical herb) can prevent
- drinking cow urine and applying cow dung on the body can cure coronavirus
- there is no risk to mass public gatherings as the virus is impossible to contract outdoors
- Miracle Mineral Supplement cures
- silver infused toothpaste will kill the virus
- Kenneth Copeland can cure the virus directly from his tv studio
- you have to be with someone for 10 minutes to catch the virus from them
- taking ibuprofen makes COVID-19 worse
- reading the Quran will make you immune
- 2. Stories relating inaccurate information about the nature of the virus
- Corona virus is just a cold
- Covid 19 is a normal flu
- Children cannot catch corona virus
- Sars cov 2 is mutating faster than normal viruses
- Pregnant women who have covid 19 can pass the virus through the placenta to the unborn child
- Covid 19 only affects the elderly
- The SARS CoV 2 virus can be transmitted through mosquito bite
- Africans are immune
- Vegetarians are immune
- Everyone with Covid 19 dies
- 3. Stories relating inaccurate information regarding weaponization or other conspiracies
- It was created in a lab
- It is a US/CIA created bioweapon
- It is a Chinese bioweapon
- It is a Russian bioweapon
- It leaked from a bio weapons lab in China
- It leaked from the Wuhan Institute of Virology in China
- It was caused by an infected rat biting a student in the Wuhan Institute of Virology in China

- Electromagnetic fields and the introduction of 5G and wireless technologies led to Covid 19 outbreaks
- Washing hands is propaganda by soap companies
- This was a plan from Gate Foundation to increase it's wealth
- 4. Stories describing false diagnosis procedures
- If you can hold your breath for 10 seconds you don't have Covid 19