

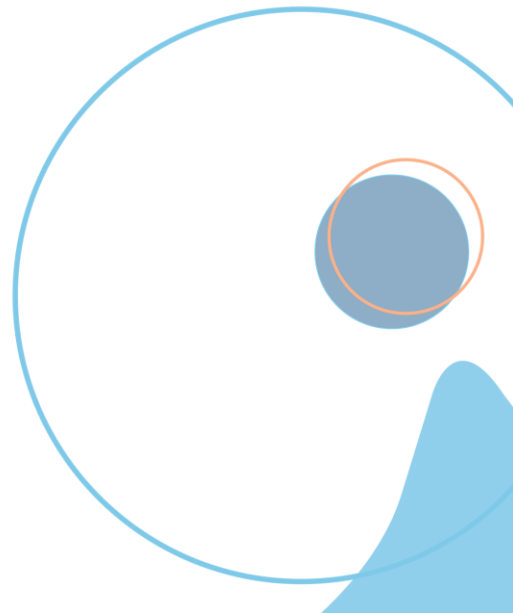
PAHO/WHO Collaborating Centres: Celebrating the Achievement of Our Common Goals

Friday, 10 March 2023, 10:00 AM (EDT)



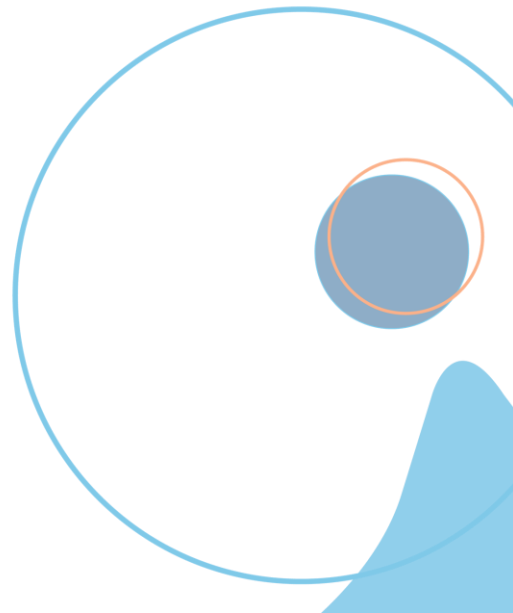
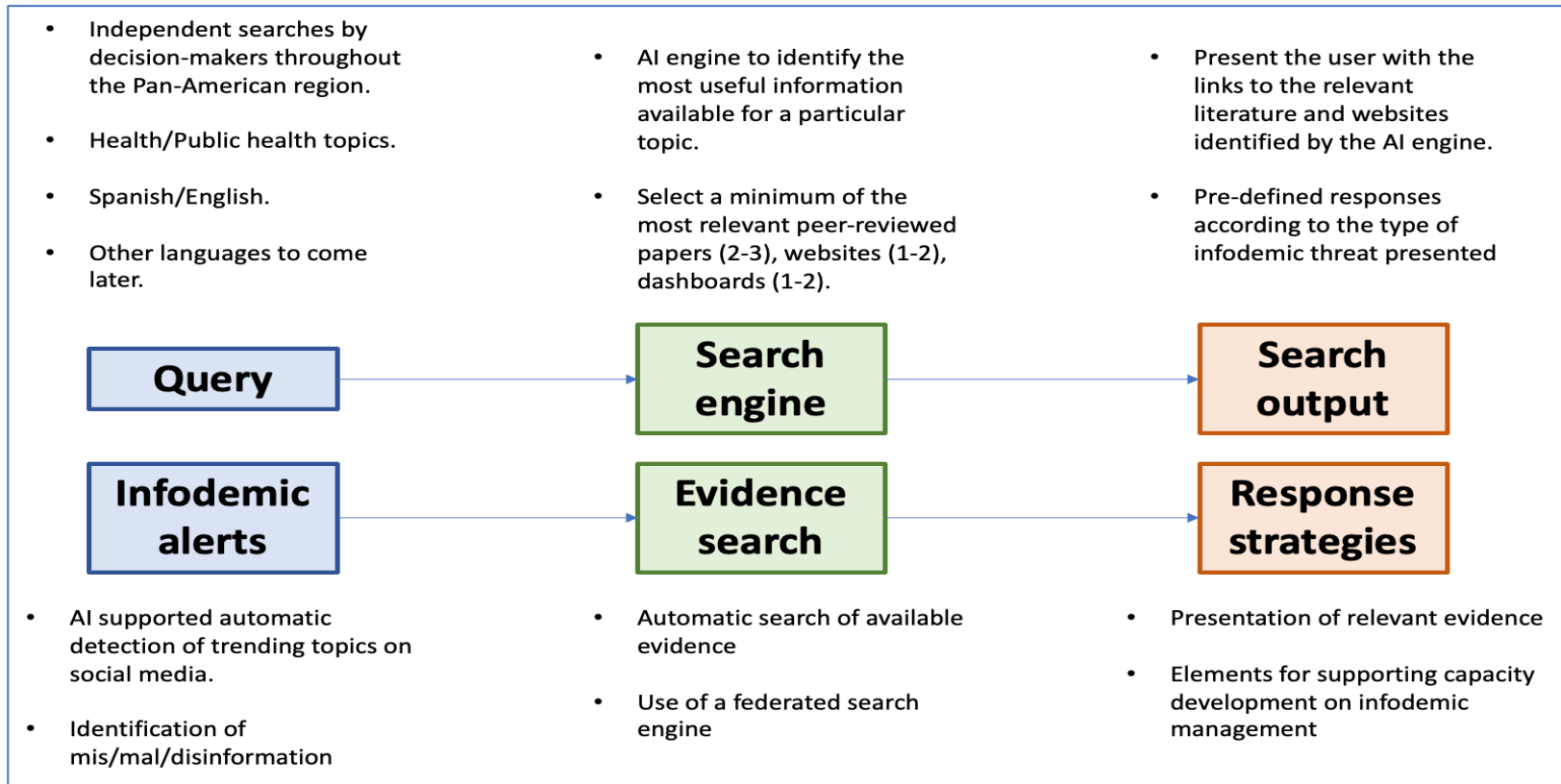
An anti-infodemic virtual center for the Americas

- Ian Brooks, Marcelo D'Agostino, Myrna, Marti, Kate McDowell, Felipe Mejia, Miguel Betancourt-Cravioto, Lisa Gatzke, Elaine Hicks, Rebecca Kyser, Kevin Leicht, Eliane Pereira dos Santos, Jessica Jia-Wen Saw, Ailin Tomio, Sebastian Garcia Saiso
- Ian Brooks, PhD. Director – Center for Health Informatics
- School of Information Sciences, University of Illinois



Overview of Article

• Design and test an anti-infodemic platform



Conclusions/results?

Home
Threat History
More Information

Threat of the Week 09/26 - 10/02 2021

POSTED: 8 / NOV / 2021

Myth: Luciferase is in the COVID vaccines and is a satanic marker.

THREAT LEVEL	EXTREME
MISINFORMATION TECHNIQUES	Conspiracy Theories Using Emotional Language Discrediting Opponents
THREAT CONSEQUENCE	Vaccine Avoidance
ACTIVITY LEVEL	Emergent
ACTIVITY AREA	Pan-America

How to Respond

The Response Team has put together strategies for responding to this threat based on the specific misinformation techniques used to propagate it.

LEARN HOW TO
Respond to this Threat

About this threat

DETECT

↓

RESEARCH

↓

RESPOND

Algorithms search X platforms and X records to discover this trending infodemic threat
[Go to Detection Page for this threat](#)

Evidence team queried millions of records to discover evidence or lack of evidence.
[View the Evidence Page for this threat](#)

Response Team provide sample text responses, strategies and vetted media to share.
[View the Response Page for this threat](#)

Understanding Mis-Information

Learn about the different types of mis-information and the techniques used to spread it.

TAKE ME THERE

Telling Stories with Data

Learn about the different types of mis-information and the techniques used to spread it.

TAKE ME THERE

Take our Mis-Information Self-Quiz

2 min

TAKE THE QUIZ

✕

Posted: 09/26/2021

RESPONSE STRATEGIES

Misinformation:
The COVID-19 vaccine contains the substance Luciferase and Luciferase is a satanic marker.

What we know

None of the COVID-19 vaccines contain Luciferase. >

The word "luciferase" comes from a Latin root—lucifer, in Latin, means "light-bearing"—and has also been used by poets to refer to Venus, the morning star. >

The similarity between the enzyme name "luciferase" and the angel/devil name "Lucifer" from old stories has sparked fear in some people of Covid-19 vaccines. >

The enzyme luciferase is a natural substance, and it's a normal part of the wonder of lightning bugs. v

Content to Share

Fireflies are a natural source of the enzyme called Luciferase.

—Anti-Infodemic Resiliency Center

The enzyme luciferase is a natural substance, and it's a normal part of the wonder of lightning bugs. The name might sound bad, but that's a coincidence that should not cause fear. Scientists sometimes name discoveries, in this case in 1888, with words that sound different or scary a century and more later, but there's no need for fear. All language changes over time, and this is one example. Knowing how people are scared of the word now, it's unlikely that scientists would use the same language today, but they didn't know how we might interpret the word. And there's nothing bad about this enzyme, it's just part of the wonder of creation that some creatures can glow naturally!

General Information

Understanding Mis-Information

Learn about the different types of mis-information and the techniques used to

TAKE ME THERE

Telling Stories with Data

Learn about the different types of mis-information and the techniques used to

TAKE ME THERE

Trusted Sources to Share

[https://www.bmc.edu/news/202007/fireflies-help-... | Fireflies help kindle new tests and treatments for COVID-19](#)

Jul 21, 2022 — Located in the heart of Houston, Texas Medical Center campus is home to leaders in research, medicine, and innovation in healthcare.

[https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/how-and-... | How and why do fireflies light up? - Scientific American](#)

Sep 5, 2005 — When oxygen combines with calcium, adenosine triphosphate (ATP) and the chemical luciferin in the presence of luciferase, a bioluminescent ...

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki:Firefly_luciferase | Firefly luciferase - Wikipedia](#)

Firefly luciferase is the light-emitting enzyme responsible for the bioluminescence of fireflies and click beetles. The enzyme catalyzes the oxidation of ...

Organism: Photinus pyralis UniProt: P08659

PDB: 1LQ2

Mechanism of reaction Structure Spectral differences in... Homology

[https://www.businessinsider.com/science/video-... | What makes a firefly glow - Business Insider](#)

Jun 30, 2021 — The firefly is probably the Earth's most famous bioluminescent species, with over 2000 individual species. Here's how they make their light.



How does this activity support the Organization's goals and mandates?

Developing a production resource for member states to identify, evaluate, and respond to health misinformation.

