

THE NETWORK: TOWARDS UNITY
FOR HEALTH & FACULTAD DE MEDICINA,
UNAM, PRESENT



THE NETWORK
TOWARDS UNITY FOR HEALTH



Facultad de Medicina



TUFH2020 MEXICO

VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

"PRIMARY HEALTH CARE: A PATH
TOWARDS SOCIAL JUSTICE"

SYSTEMS AND COMMUNITY BASED
RESPONSES TO COVID-19

SEPTEMBER 23-25, 2020

#TUFH2020
TUFH2020.COM



TUFH 2020 Abstracts

Title	Analysis of the IFMSA and WHO list of COVID-19 fact-checking organizations around the world
Type	Oral Presentation <i>Systems and Community Based Responses for COVID 19</i>
Presenting Author	SAAD UAKKAS
Co-Authors	
Country	Morocco
Abstract N°	TUFH405
Content	<p>Today, there is a global epidemic of misinformation, spreading rapidly through social media platforms and other outlets, posing a critical threat for public health due to the COVID-19 outbreak. The fight against such misinformation requires continuous provision of the most reliable and recent information about pandemic control and prevention. IFMSA conducted a global study in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO), composed of a survey to collect data about all organizations, institutions, , universities and other entities focusing on myth-busting, and correcting misinformation about COVID-19. The survey was filled by medical students who reported name, scope of work, languages, primary funding source, type and source of information shared by the organization. Through the survey, we discovered 174 initiatives from 60 countries that verified information in 48 languages. Social media, internet, radio, SMS, printed media and hearsay were identified as the main sources of misinformation. Video podcasts with experts, regular social media updates and newsletters, were described as best practices, in addition to debunking myths on a regular basis and verifying statements by public figures. Data showed that myths and false information is spreading through different means from public figures to daily social media outlets. Fighting misinformation should use innovative and accessible approaches, There is urgent need for national initiatives and political engagement for myth-busting. IFMSA and WHO plans to follow-up on our study with a designated website under Epi-Win to demonstrate all fact-checking initiatives in a map available for the public</p>