



Salig
Bangsamoro

(Trust Bangsamoro) is Rooted in Trust Philippines' biweekly rumor bulletin for journalists. Rooted in Trust is a global and local humanitarian response run by Internews to fight the spread of rumors on COVID-19. In the Philippines, the focus is on the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM).

1 what are people saying

"The vaccine with microchip will soon be released in US. That's why you should not get vaccinated when it becomes available in the Philippines because they'll use a different kind of needle, the kind with a microchip. Tell your loved ones. This is not joke... Bill Gates created the virus and he brought it in China and when it is spread around the world, he will also release the vaccine against the virus... The doctors themselves are saying that vaccine is not good to our body because of chemicals and biochip." (Male, 46-50 years old)

VACCINES WITH MICROCHIP; BILL GATES IS BEHIND ALL THIS



Rumor risk level: Medium

Platform: Facebook Reactions: 38
Comments: 3 Shares: 69

2 what are people saying

"Good news to stop COVID-19! There's already a solution and it is guaranteed that no one will be positive... Philippine Red Cross has started it so others may continue. Just close all the testing center." (Marawi City, Male, 46-60 years old)

CLOSING TESTING CENTERS IS THE SOLUTION TO COVID-19



Rumor risk level: Medium

Platform: Facebook Reactions: 621
Comments: 49 Shares: 12

IN THIS ISSUE

In this issue, we dig deeper into the implication of claims against vaccines and testing centers. We also provide resources and suggestions on what local media can do.

Two rumors from social media are featured this week. First, a claim said that COVID-19 vaccine has microchip and that a US business magnate is the one developing them. Second, a rumor jokingly said that closing the testing centers is the way to solve the pandemic.

USEFUL CONTACT FOR MEDIA

Visit the official DOH website at <http://www.doh.gov.ph/2019-nCoV>
If you see suspicious activities, please report them to the PNP.



AMAI PAKPAK MEDICAL CENTER-COVID HOTLINES

Smart: 09991909488
Globe: 09955632722



The Ministry of Interior and Local Government

(064) 552 8644
(064) 421 2178
mlg@bangsamoro.gov.ph



Philippine National Police Hotlines:

Regional Headquarters: 09053524920
Maguindanao: 09177034075
Lanao del Sur: 09177909115
Basilan: 09976643779
Sulu: 09457236318
Tawi Tawi: 09177048927

Reporting tips

1) Explain clearly what is known and what is still unknown about vaccines. Don't draw your own conclusions for a catchier headline.

2) Humanize your story

- many people in the communities can't wait to live their "normal" lives again. Vaccine and trials are more than about medical science development but you may also consider reporting on what it would mean for people's livelihood, education and more. You may also consider telling the story of a trial participant who would be open to publicly talking about their experiences.

3) Use of Terminologies

- if you have to use health and science terminologies related to vaccines, immediately explain it using simple language. Avoid using the terms "guaranteed" or "miraculous" as nothing in medical science is guaranteed and medicine is not a miracle.

4) Explain the vaccine production process and give examples that your audience can relate to. For example, the flu vaccine or other routine vaccines used to immunize people in your country, such as measles or polio.

5) Ensure your reporting responds to the questions and concerns your audience has. Develop and support channels that allow them to easily ask more questions. This should be an ongoing cycle of listening, responding and listening again. You may subscribe to Rooted in Trust Rumor bulletin to get updates on what the communities are saying around COVID-19 in BARMM.

1. [Coronavirus or COVID? A Glossary to Help Navigate Pandemic Vocabulary](#)
2. [The critical role that Philippine media play in covering COVID-19](#)
3. [Rooted in Trust Mailing List the locals in BARMM – Rumor Bulletins](#)

Vaccines

The global toll of the COVID-19 pandemic is enormous. As at 27 October 2020 more than one million lives have been lost, more than 43 million people infected with the coronavirus, hundreds of millions out of work, and trillions of dollars of wealth gone – and the numbers keep growing.

While multiple groups of scientists began working on developing vaccines, governments began working on behind-the-scene deals with pharmaceutical manufacturers to secure access to these vaccines for their own people before any other country.

This is called vaccine nationalism and is of great concern because it can cause supply problems that could leave poorer countries without access to life-saving vaccines.

TESTING

Like in any other communicable disease, early detection is key. It leads to quick identification of cases, treatment and contact tracing and will further reduce potential spread. There have been substantial constraints in resources of the Department of Health compounded by other challenges with conducting adequate testing, as the testing capacity is overburdened. If there are more testing centers, public health officials will be able to plan mitigation efforts and manage infection risks.

Here's an excerpt from [Internews' Journalists Guidelines on How to Report Accurately on Vaccine and Clinical Trials](#)



USEFUL READINGS

Click the titles to go to the link



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We welcome your feedback, questions, and suggestions to help local media produce reliable and accurate reporting on COVID-19. **Please contact: Denvie Balido**, Media Liaison Officer Rooted in Trust, Philippines at dbalido@internews.org.