

Addressing COVID-19 Misinformation on Social Media Preemptively and Responsively

Appendix 5

Additional Analysis

Appendix 5 Table 1. Correlations between science and prevention efficacy myths†

Characteristic	Wave 1
Control	0.06
Misinformation	0.15*
WHO preemptive	0.37***
User preemptive	0.06
WHO responsive	0.39***
User responsive	0.24**

*p<0.05, **p<0.01, ***p<0.001
 †Bolded values indicate correlation significantly stronger than pure control condition, p<0.05 using a Fisher r-to-z transformation, 2-tailed test.
 Italicized values indicate correlation is significantly stronger than misinformation condition, p<0.05, using Fisher r-to-z transformation, 2-tailed test

Appendix 5 Table 2. Comparing the means by experimental condition between wave 1 and wave 2*

Characteristic	Wave 1	Wave 2	Statistical test
Body temperature misperceptions			
Control	3.12	2.94	t = 4.15, p<0.001
Misinformation	3.08	2.85	t = 2.98, p<0.01
WHO preemptive	2.71	2.64	t = 0.81, p = 0.42
User preemptive	2.91	2.86	t = 0.60, p = 0.55
WHO responsive	2.62	2.58	t = -0.50, p = 0.52
User responsive	2.79	2.72	t = 0.86, p = 0.39
COVID-19 prevention misperceptions			
Control	2.02	1.94	t = 2.79, p = 0.01
Misinformation	1.89	1.74	t = 2.75, p = 0.01
WHO preemptive	1.86	1.80	t = 1.41, p = 0.16
User preemptive	1.95	1.85	t = 1.87, p = 0.06
WHO responsive	1.85	1.72	t = 2.69, p = 0.01
User responsive	2.01	1.83	t = 3.31, p<0.01

*Analysis limited to persons who passed both wave 1 and wave 2 attention checks to run a paired-samples t-test as the statistical test. Both COVID-19 misperceptions and body temperature misperceptions were measured on a 5-point scale from "definitely false" to "definitely true"; exact measures are found in Appendix 1. Bold values indicate a significant decline from wave 1 to wave 2 in misperceptions; italicized values represent a significantly different value from the control condition within that wave.