

**COVID-19 and disinformation pandemic: a panorama of Brazil***COVID-19 y la pandemia de desinformación: un panorama del Brasil**Pandemia de COVID-19 e de desinformação: um panorama do Brasil***Magda Guimarães de Araujo  
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With the worldwide spread of the new coronavirus associated with the growing number of cases, the World Health Organization recognized the state of the pandemic on March 11, 2020, thus emerging the need for health measures that could reduce infection and contagion<sup>1</sup>.

The main measure instituted for pandemic control was social isolation accompanied by case surveillance based on constant epidemiological analysis. In the first days of July, after the loosening of measures to control the pandemic, Brazil already accounted for more than 60 thousand deaths and a lethality coefficient of 4%<sup>2</sup>.

The high number of cases and deaths in the national territory points to a great concern, which is the regionalized organization of health services, since the Unified Health System could present difficulties in assisting victims of the new coronavirus, either due to lack of physical structure or qualified personnel for this action<sup>3</sup>.

In this context, the need for educational actions that could offer quality information to the population on means of control, propagation, signs and symptoms and the characterization of the health care network throughout the national territory becomes indisputable. Parallel to government initiatives, such as the creation of an application and regional telemonitoring strategies<sup>4</sup>, the growth of false news was observed in a frightening number, generating a massive misinformation, and spread of non-scientific findings.

Only in the first month of the disease after recognition of the pandemic state, 70 false information had been released by government agencies<sup>5</sup>, however, even today, new information is published daily on social networks whose content is mainly aimed at therapies not recognized as effective in caring for individuals with COVID-19.

Therefore, this editorial aims to instigate readers about the dissemination of scientific data among their peers, expanding the look for the construction of a reflective and critical base on the information published daily on their social networks. It is believed that the dissemination of news that generate misinformation for society is still one of the biggest challenges to be faced, even in the post-pandemic period.

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