

Dr. Vivek Murthy, U.S. Surgeon General @Surgeon_Gene · Oct 29, 2021 ...

I was deeply disappointed to read this story. Health misinformation has harmed people's health and cost lives. In the Surgeon General's Advisory on Health Misinformation, I stated clearly that tech platforms have a responsibility to improve our health information ecosystem.

The Washington Post @washingtonpost · Oct 28, 2021

Facebook researchers had deep knowledge of how coronavirus and vaccine misinformation moved through the company's apps, according to documents disclosed by Facebook whistleblower Frances Haugen. wapo.st/3mmERBx

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What continues to be lacking from Facebook and other tech companies is transparency and accountability. Only the companies understand the full extent of misinformation's spread and impact – yet they have not yet shared this data with independent researchers and the public.

4:19 PM · Oct 29, 2021

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Without this critical data, it is much harder to design the right interventions or hold the platforms accountable.

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When I talk to doctors and nurses around the country, a common refrain I hear is: "I'm fighting COVID by day in the hospital, and I'm fighting misinformation by night on social media."

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When I talk to people around our country about where they heard common myths about COVID19 and the vaccine, the majority of the time they say social media.

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With the possibility of vaccines for 5-11 year olds on the horizon, it is even more urgent that we ensure families are getting accurate, science-based information so they can make the right decision for their children.

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We must demand Facebook and the rest of the social media ecosystem take responsibility for stopping health misinformation on their platforms. The time for excuses and half measures is long past. We need transparency and accountability. The health of our country is at stake.

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Dr. Vivek Murthy @Surgeon_General Follow

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and accountability now. The health of our country is at stake.

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