



Third Bi-Weekly Rumour

# Bulletin

South Sudan

JULY 2022



## ABOUT THE PROJECT

The Internews Rooted in Trust 2.0 project in South Sudan is funded by USAID Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID-BHA). It aims to respond to rumors, misinformation, and fake news that shape negative public perceptions towards COVID-19 response in South Sudan.

## About This Bulletin Factsheet

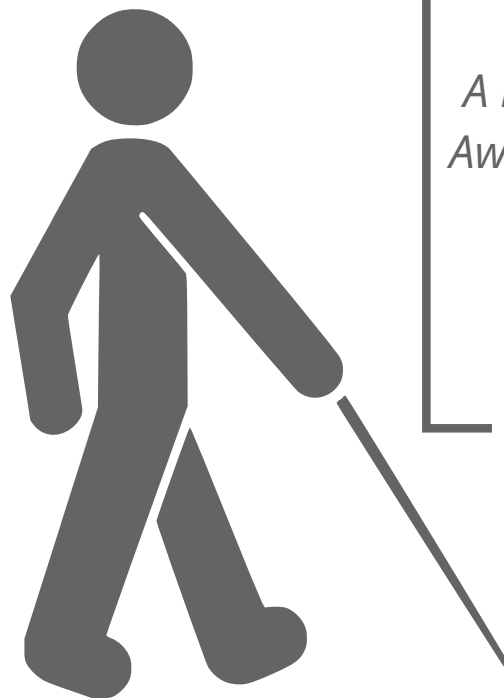
*This bulletin provides humanitarian and health partners with the latest rumour data obtained from the South Sudanese populations. The aim is to guide and inform risk communication and community engagement efforts toward COVID-19 response.*

*As the coronavirus remains unpredictable with new variants emerging, informing the public helps them make crucial decisions about the virus. In South Sudan, myths about COVID-19 continue to dominate public spheres. This bulletin counters false rumours about the pandemic and validates those that are factual.*

## CATEGORY ONE

### The coronavirus vaccines

#### Rumour #1



“

*A man became blind in Aweil after the COVID-19 vaccination X*

”

## VERIFICATION



*Dr Wendemagegn Dubale from the World Health Organization (WHO) said they sent a team to investigate how the man got blind and he said the man had a history of blindness before the vaccine was administered to him.*

**Source:** <https://health-desk.org/articles/what-do-we-know-about-eye-problems-related-to-covid-19-vaccines>

## Rumour #2



“

*Most of the COVID-19 vaccine recipients are men, that is why some women are very shy to go and take the vaccine.*

”

## Fact File

- ✓ This claim is true. Women were significantly more likely to express a desire to delay or reject the Covid-19 vaccine than men were, which is consistent with the existing literature on vaccine hesitancy. Women were also more likely than men to state that the vaccine was too new.

Source: <https://gender.stanford.edu/news-publications/gender-news/gender-differences-covid-19-vaccine-hesitancy>

## Rumour #3

*What is the importance of vaccination when you still contract Covid 19 even up to booster dose*



## VERIFICATION

*When someone who is vaccinated with either a primary series or a primary series plus a booster dose gets infected with the virus that causes COVID-19, it is referred to as a “vaccine breakthrough infection.”*



Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/effectiveness/why-measure-effectiveness/breakthrough-cases.html>

**CATEGORY TWO****Misconception****Rumour #1**

*If you take paracetamol before the Corona test you will get the result negative*

**FACT**

*It remains unknown whether ibuprofen and paracetamol influence SARS-CoV-2 infectivity. Moreover, despite ibuprofen-induced increases in ACE2 in rats [12], no human study has assessed whether ibuprofen or paracetamol affects levels of ACE2. The aims of this study are, first, to assess if ibuprofen or paracetamol affect SARS-CoV-2 infectivity. In this study, it was demonstrated that paracetamol is associated with a lower risk of COVID-19 infectivity and a decrease in ACE2 protein levels, while we found no association between ibuprofen and COVID-19 infection.*



## CATEGORY THREE

### Other Health Rumors

#### Rumour #1

*HIV Aids is not there  
it is just like Malaria  
doesn't kill any more  
nowadays*



#### VERIFICATION

*Those who remain untreated are more likely to  
experience complications from  
HIV that could lead to illness and death.*



Source: <https://www.healthline.com/health/hiv-aids/life-expectancy#takeaway>

The Rooted in Trust 2.0 project works to combat COVID-19 rumors and misinformation, responds to the information challenges faced by vulnerable groups, encourages open dialogue between citizens and stronger collaborative partnerships between information providers.



## Rumour #2

### What do people say?

*Monkeypox is a conspiracy theory*

### VERIFICATION



*Monkeypox is a rare disease caused by infection with the monkeypox virus. The monkeypox virus is part of the same family of viruses as the variola virus, the virus that causes smallpox. Monkeypox symptoms are similar to smallpox symptoms but milder, and monkeypox is rarely fatal. However, monkeypox is not related to chickenpox.*

*The first human case of monkeypox was recorded in 1970. Prior to the 2022 outbreak, monkeypox had been reported in people in several central and western African countries. Previously, almost all monkeypox cases in people outside of Africa were linked to international travel to countries where the disease commonly occurs or through imported animals. These cases occurred on multiple continents.*

**Source:** <https://www.cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/about.html>

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