

Biased Data, Fake News and Underreported Incidence Relating to COVID-19

Rujittika Mungmungpunipantip¹, Viroj Wiwanitkit²

¹Private Academic Consultant.

²Honorary Professor, Dr DY Patil University, Pune, India.

Abstract

COVID-19 is still an important problem worldwide and the situation is still ongoing. The registry data on COVID-19 usually has problem on accuracy. The biased data from a local authority is a possible problem. Sometimes, a conflict occurs and there is usually an issue for biased data versus fake news. Underreported incidence relating to COVID-19 might be expected.

Keywords: COVID-19, Fake News, Bias, Authority, Incidence.

Introduction

COVID-19 is still an important problem worldwide and the situation is still ongoing. The registry data on COVID-19 usually has problem on accuracy. The biased data from a local authority is a possible problem. Sometimes, a conflict occurs and there is usually an issue for biased data versus fake news. Underreported incidence relating to COVID-19 might be expected.

Biased data versus fake news

Biased data in scientific is an unwanted issue. During pandemic crisis, a fair data to the public is necessary. In many settings, dictatorship style and military style commanding might occur and it might cause biased data. A local authority might control all news and give data to the public according to the plan. A data that are not according to local policy or reflect failure of local activity on disease control might be inhibited.

For example, when a new mode of disease transmission occurs, a local scientist might report then local authority try to correct and bias the data. The local scientist might be force to change the primary report. In another case, when a case die from COVID-19 complication, local physician might be forced to report that the patient die from complication, not COVID-19. Similarly, when a case died after COVID-19 vaccination, it is usually reported for no relationship to vaccination but other causes (such as personal illness or drug). In fact, if a case has underlying disease, vaccination should not be performed. In the worst case, a local fake news center might be set and misused to force local scientist not to report ideas against local

authority's desire. In many setting, a local famous scientist/physician might follow local authority and give luring data for local people (such as incorrect data on efficacy of vaccine). Those local scientists might violate ethics and give biased ideas. Many exaggerated information might given by local scientist and it is a totally non-scientific information [1].

Those examples can reflect problem and it might cause the unreliability of local data related tonCOVID-19. Underreporting can be expected and it might further link to unsuccess in control of disease.

Conflict of interest: None

References

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