

## OR2022 Presentation Submission

17th International Open Repositories Conference, June 6th-9th in Denver, Colorado, USA

A reminder that the theme for OR2022 is “Building Trust Together”. We particularly welcome submissions that reflect the conference theme and answer questions focused on ways repositories enable trust, integration, collaboration and sharing. See the Call for Proposals for more detail on the themes. You will be asked to select a sub-theme at the time of submission.

### **Title of Proposal - Arca - Repositório Institucional da Fundação Oswaldo Cruz : fighting COVID-19 Fake News**

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### **Abstract**

*This work describes procedures, organization and other actions to one of the greatest public health problems worldwide nowadays related to COVID-19: Fake News is causing serious and enormous risks to health and people's lives, providing misleading information about medicines, vaccines treatments etc. It presents the importance of retrieving and obtaining information on reliable sources, produced by renowned institutions that use proven data from scientific research. We want to address the fight against COVID-19 pandemic and Fake News through one of the most globally recognized Brazilian institution, Fundação Oswaldo Cruz (Fiocruz), whose mission is "promote health and social development, create and disseminate scientific and technological knowledge" to the public health system of the country. Regarding the information source, processing and treatment, we must talk about Arca, Fiocruz IR and main reference for the technical-scientific production of the institution. To ensure quality and reliability on Arca, information professionals are, since the beginning of the pandemic, dedicated to the authentication and approval of COVID-19 documents, aiming to make this valuable knowledge available in Open Access to the society.*

### **Keywords**

*Arca – Repositório Institucional da Fiocruz; Fake News; COVID-19; pandemic*

### **Audience**

*This work is especially interesting for repository managers, librarians and curators since it encompasses activities related to these roles while managing information.*

## Proposal

The Coronavirus that causes COVID-19 is one of the most serious health emergency problems provoking a worldwide pandemic and being an extremely dangerous virus for human life. Even with all the scientific information on the subject, the “phenomenon” of fake news has become increasingly frequent in the media and in the most varied areas, especially health, gaining considerable prominence and a fertile environment for wrong, misleading, deceitful and extremely dangerous information.

The accentuated use of fake news is well evidenced in the COVID-19 pandemic, where information was completely distorted, such as the use of medicines that are prescribed for other diseases and that were provided to patients with the disease - known as “COVID Kit”. Another fake news is that vaccines don't work and that they had some kind of "Chinese chip". These data, widely disseminated in the wrong way, by the media and social networks, made evident the great public health problem that was emerging around the world and how they negatively impact the performance of professionals who work on the front line of hospitals and health centers, and who need to be fighting day by day to provide the best treatment and diagnosis for their patients. These misleading news also promote an overload on the psychological performance of these professionals.

In this context, it is worth emphasizing the importance of national and international institutions that have reliable sources of health information to disseminate scientifically proven data with an emphasis on Science and the appreciation of life and an effective treatment for COVID-19. Among these institutions we can mention the work of the Fundação Oswaldo Cruz (Brazil) regarding the development of several researches and the production of the AstraZeneca vaccine to combat the disease, being one of the largest institutions internationally recognized for its performance and dissemination of scientific and technological knowledge, aligned with the Sistema Único de Saúde (SUS) of the Ministry of Health. Within this context, it is important to highlight that Fiocruz's mission is:

Produce, disseminate and share knowledge and technologies aiming to strengthen and consolidate the Sistema Único de Saúde (SUS) and contribute to the promotion of health and quality of life for the Brazilian population, to the reduction of social inequalities and to the national innovation dynamics, having defense of the right to health and broad citizenship as core values (FUNDAÇÃO OSWALDO CRUZ, 2022).

In this presentation, we will describe the work developed at Fiocruz with emphasis on Arca - Fiocruz Institutional Repository, which aims to gather, preserve and make available in open access the documents produced by the Institution, showing data and scientific evidence from research on the COVID-19 pandemic and which were prepared by researchers from the Institution and other researchers around the world.

Fiocruz has made available on its portal a series of important information about COVID-19<sup>1</sup>, presenting data on: research, technical notes and reports, testing and diagnosis, vaccines, therapeutic studies, Hospital Center, public utilities etc. The Institution is responsible for a series of sources of health information, with the objective of disseminating and making scientific articles and other documents available in open access. In the case of a health emergency such as the COVID-19 pandemic, these sources contribute to disseminating true knowledge about all data on the disease, treatments, referral hospitals and forms of prevention. The three main sources of health information presented on the Fiocruz portal are: Arca - Institutional Repository<sup>2</sup>, the Fiocruz Periodicals Portal and the Fiocruz Virtual Health Library, which gather and disseminate information in an organized and systematized way on various matters related to health. (OSWALDO CRUZ FOUNDATION, 2022).

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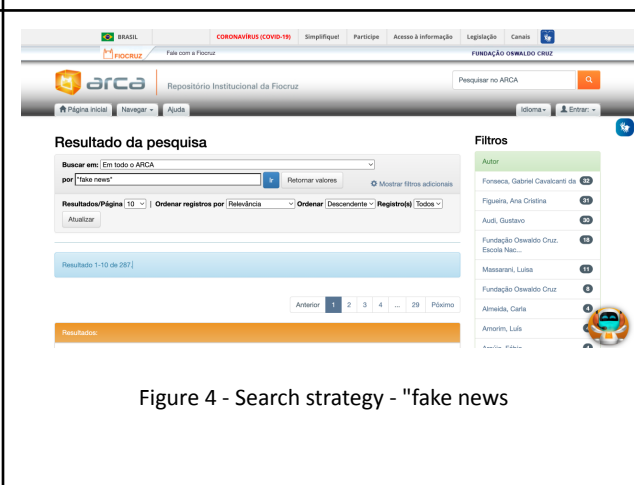
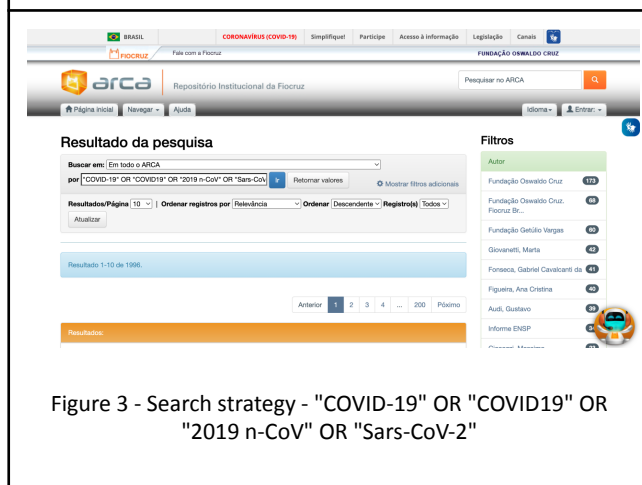
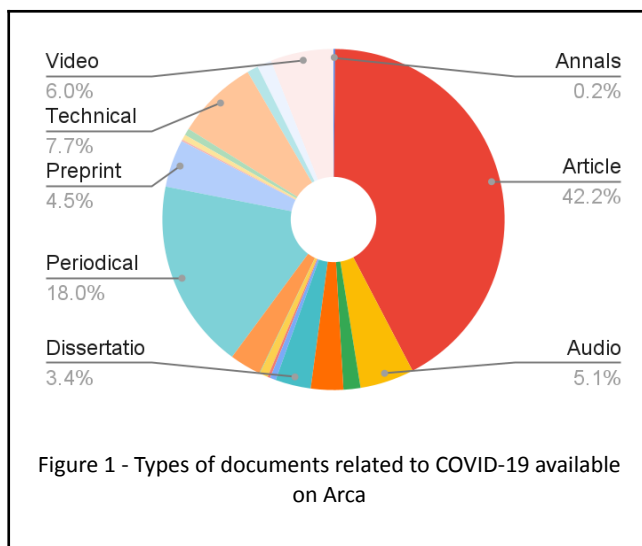
<sup>1</sup> Disponível em: <https://portal.fiocruz.br/Covid19>

<sup>2</sup> O Arca – Repositório Institucional da Fiocruz ([www.arca.fiocruz.br](http://www.arca.fiocruz.br)) foi institucionalizado em 2011 e tem como missão “reunir, hospedar, preservar, disponibilizar e aumentar a visibilidade da produção intelectual da Instituição, em consonância com o movimento de acesso aberto à informação científica”. O Repositório é coordenado e gerenciado pelo Instituto de Comunicação e Informação Científica e Tecnológica em Saúde (Icict) e está organizado em comunidades que correspondem às unidades técnico-científicas da Fiocruz (FUNDAÇÃO OSWALDO CRUZ, 2022).

The Repository is a source of information to disseminate this knowledge in a truthful and reliable way, presenting studies and discoveries that are shared with the entire scientific community and society. The Arca Repository has managed the Institution's technical-scientific production in an organized manner, bringing together an expressive volume of digital content, thus presenting the relevance of health knowledge produced by the Institution.

As of 2020, all Fiocruz production on COVID-19 is being deposited and certified in the Arca Repository (articles, preprints, videos, research reports, videos, audios, etc.), as described in Figure 1 by Fiocruz's information professionals. In these last two years, there are more than 1,900 works with true information that will facilitate quality and reliable research on the subject. In order to retrieve the information, a "COVID-19" button was created (Figure 2) on the main page of the Repository with a search strategy (Figure 3) containing all the terms that led to results about the disease, thus allowing that the new documents inserted are automatically updated at the time of the search. Another important factor for the Repository's performance in these two years is that more than 173,000 searches were carried out on Arca on the subject, according to Google Analytics (FUNDAÇÃO OSWALDO CRUZ, 2022).

Along with the health related material about COVID-19, there are a number of documents (close to 300) addressing the subject of fake news, as shown on Figure 4, not only comprising Fake News studies, but also pointing out the most commented facts on the media, social networks and rumors and confirming or denying the facts, helping the public to appreciate the matter before sharing it and reducing the risk of empowering the fake news.



The submission of documents produced by Fiocruz in Arca – Institutional Repository, related to diseases caused by the pandemic, are carried out through self-archiving by the researcher himself or by information professionals - Librarians. The Open Access to Knowledge Policy<sup>3</sup> has a governance structure, composed by a Regulation Committee, a Management Committee and Open Science nucleus, which work in an articulated, integrated and complementary manner. These structures are formed by information professionals who are involved within each Fiocruz unit, being responsible for coordinating, managing, operating and monitoring the Repository. All these professionals are trained and qualified to manage flows and processes in the Repository. We can thus say that the Librarian has become a manager, curator and facilitator at Arca, allowing cataloged and indexed information to reach the public in an efficient and clear way to combat and prevent the advance of fake news (BEZERRA, 2017).

Another important fact is that work on COVID-19 involves several researchers from Fiocruz Units integrated with renowned scientists from other research and teaching institutions from Brazil and the world. This evidences the importance of the role of the Repository's as a "large bank of scientists" working on behalf of public health, providing relevant and authentic data about the pandemic.

We can conclude by stating that the Repositories are essential sources of information that evidence the management work carried out by professionals committed to the dissemination of reliable knowledge with a scientific basis and based on Science. Repositories gather, host, preserve, make available and give visibility to the intellectual production of an Institution, allowing access to information and digital objects, through research in the most diverse types. It is essential to seek reliable sources, where scientific knowledge is obtained correctly and without prejudice to research, using computer resources that have several benefits such as: speed, agility and information retrieval.

For us, documents are the essence of the organization and memory of a society, and thus show the importance of storing your data and that can be used, not only to disseminate your content, but also to fight fake news and preserve the institutional memory and documentary heritage of the scientific data produced.

## References (if applicable)

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<sup>3</sup> Available in:

[https://portal.fiocruz.br/sites/portal.fiocruz.br/files/documentos/portaria\\_-\\_politica\\_de\\_acesso\\_aberto\\_ao\\_conhecimento\\_na\\_fiocruz.pdf](https://portal.fiocruz.br/sites/portal.fiocruz.br/files/documentos/portaria_-_politica_de_acesso_aberto_ao_conhecimento_na_fiocruz.pdf)