

Multimedia Appendix 4. GRADE Scores from the GRADE handbook for grading quality of evidence and strength of recommendations.

Studies	GRADE Score*	Sampling	Bias/limitations discussed	Study design/method
Alibrahim & Awad ¹	1	Non-random sampling	Yes	Observational/survey on vaccine hesitancy
Alliheibi ²	1	Sample described	No	Observational/content analysis of tweets regarding attitudes to vaccination
Allington et al ³	2	Sample representative	Yes	Observational/survey on predictors of vaccine hesitancy
Aloweidi et al ⁴	1-2	Sampling online/self-selected	Yes	Observational/survey on vaccine hesitancy
Baines et al ⁵	2	Random sample	Yes	Observational/text analysis of Parler content
Basch et al ⁶	2	Sampling based on numbers	Yes	Observational/analysis of popular YouTube videos on vaccines
Berry et al ⁷	1	Non-random sample	No	Observational/group interviews on vaccine concerns
Bhagianadh & Arora ⁸	2	Sample well described	Yes	Observational/survey on information sources
Boucher et al ⁹	2	Sample described	Yes	Observational/content analysis of tweets by machine learning
Brodziak et al ¹⁰	1-2	Sample non-random (?)	Briefly discussed	Observational/survey on opinions on vaccination
Chadwick et al ¹¹	2	Representative sample	Yes	Observational/survey 'media diets'
Chan et al ¹²	2	Sampling acceptably described	Yes	Observational, content analysis of YouTube videos
Choudhary et al ¹³	1	Non-random/online sampling	No	Observational/survey
Costantino et al ¹⁴	1	Non-random (self-selected)	Briefly discussed	Observational/survey
Chriss et al ¹⁵	1	Sample described	Yes	Observational/content analysis of tweets
Doyno et al ¹⁶	1	Sample described No control group	No	Interventional study/description of a training program and videos used to train vaccinators
Ebrahimi et al ¹⁷	1-2	Sample non-random/self-selected	Yes	Observational/survey on vaccine hesitancy
El-Far Cardo et al ¹⁸	1-2	Sample non-random (online/self-selected)	Yes	Observational/survey
Guntuku et al ¹⁹	1-2	Sample described	Yes, briefly	Observational/content analysis of tweets on vaccines
Hernández-García et al ²⁰	2	Sample described	Yes	Observational/content analysis of YouTube videos on vaccines
Herrera-Peco et al ²¹	1-2	Sample described	Yes	Observational/content analysis of antivax tweets
Herrera-Peco et al ²²	1-2	Sample described	Yes	Observational/content analysis of tweets from institutions
Hughes et al ²³	1-2	Non-random/purposive sampling	Bias/limitations discussed	Observational/qualitative content analysis of antivax rhetoric on social media/film Sentiment/'code book' of rhetorics
Islam et al ²⁴	1	Unclear sampling	Bias poorly discussed. Poorly conducted	Google, social media/observational
Jennings et al ²⁵	2	Sample well defined	Yes	Survey/observational
Kanyike et al ²⁶	1	Non-random sample (self-selected)	Yes, briefly	Observational/survey
Karabela et al ²⁷	1	Sample non-random (self-recruited)	No	Observational/survey
Knights et al ²⁸	1-2	Non-random sampling	Yes	Observational study
Kwok et al ²⁹	2	Sample described	Yes	Observational study of tweets
Larrondo-Ureta ³⁰	1	Sample described	Bias/limitations poorly discussed	Observational Qualitative content analysis of tweets
Liu & Liu ³¹	2	Sampling described well	Yes	Observational Qualitative content analysis of Twitter posts

Melton et al ³²	1-2	Unclear sampling	Yes	Observational/sentiment analysis of Reddit posts
Park et al ³³	2	Sampling clear	Yes	Observational/survey
Pascual-Ferra ³⁴	1	Unclear design	Yes	Observational/social media trends vs. 'adverse events'
Petravic et al ³⁵	1-2	Unclear sampling/online	Yes	Observational/survey
Rotolo et al ³⁶	2-3	Infographics created and spread on social media, reach evaluated	Yes	Intervention study, no randomization
Sallam et al ³⁷	1-2	Online/unclear sampling	Yes	Observational/survey
Sallam et al ³⁸	1-2	Online/unclear sampling	Yes	Observational/survey
Savolainen ³⁹	1	Unclear sampling	No	Observational study of Reddit posts
Sharevski & Gover ⁴⁰	3	Clear sampling but self selected (online)	Yes	Intervention study with randomization
Sobkowicz & Sobkowicz ⁴¹	2	Clear sampling	Yes	Social media/observational
Thelwall et al ⁴²	1	Clear sampling	Bias poorly discussed	Twitter/observational
Wawrzuta et al ⁴³	1	Sampling unclear	No	Observational/content analysis of Facebook posts/comments
Zhang et al ⁴⁴	2	Sampling described	Yes	Observational/online survey of attitudes to vaccination
Zhang et al ⁴⁵	2	Sampling described	Yes	Observational/online survey of attitudes to vaccination

*GRADE Scores: 1=very low, 2=low, 3=moderate, 4=high

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