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Social media and cardiovascular medicine: quo vadis?

Hôpitaux Universitaires de Genève

Ricardo Ladeiras-Lopes MD, PhD, FESC







Road map

- Status quo
- The ESC Journals Randomised Study
- Quo vadis?



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What's the proportion of the Swiss population that uses social media?

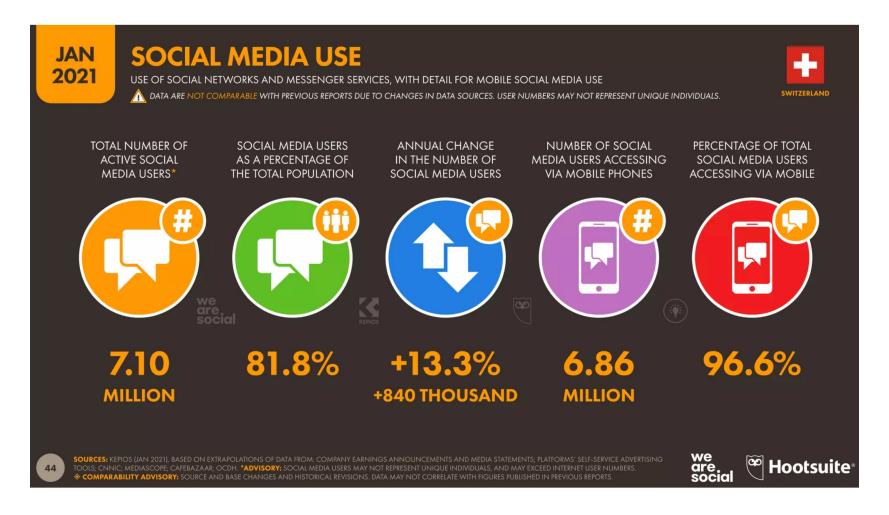
~30%

~50%

~80%

~100%

Social media in Switzerland





The most used social media platform in Switzerland is...

Whatsapp

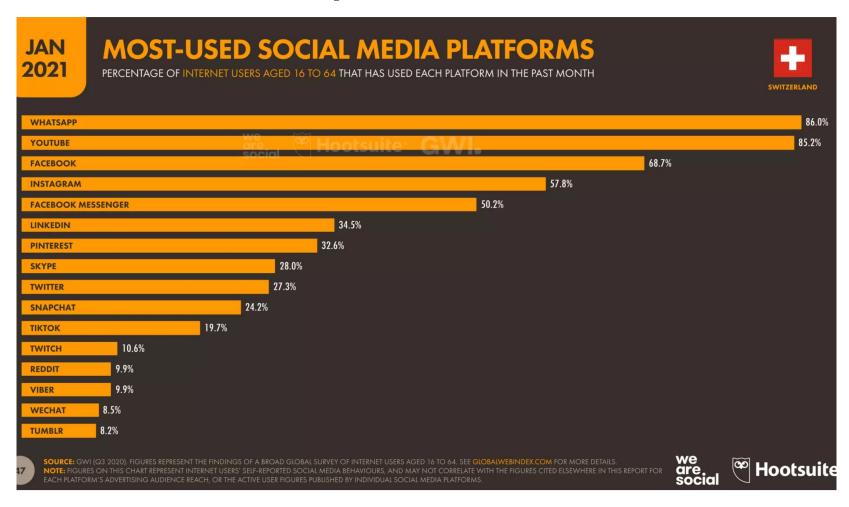
Twitter

Facebook

Instagram

LinkedIn

Most used social media platforms in Switzerland





Unknown product able to:

- 1. Provide immediate and widespread reach;
- 2. Keep you up-to-date of current news and events;
- 3. Build your online reputation and network;
- 4. Offer opportunities to share data, engage in discussions and collaborate with others.







"We don't have a choice on whether we DO social media, the question is how well we DO it."

Erik Qualman



ESC Survey

Approximately 1,000 healthcare professionals

- 90% HCPs use social media;
- 70% for both professional and personal purposes;
- 80% share content on social media.



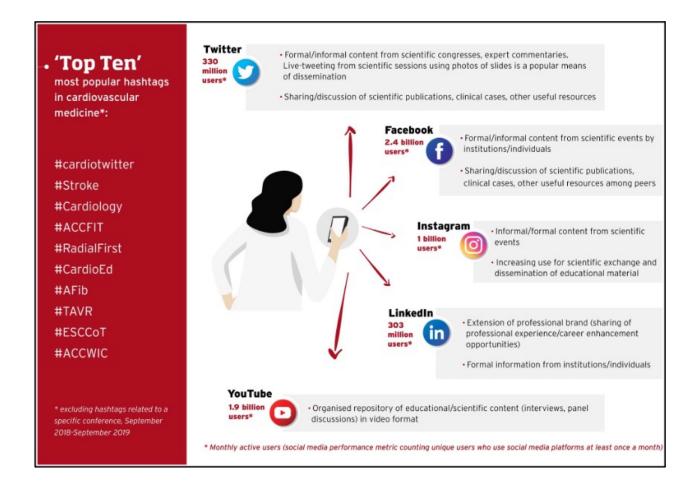
ESC Survey

Approximately 1,000 healthcare professionals

- Top reason for using social media: Learning and Education;
- 81% believe social media has had a positive impact in their clinical practice;
- 50% believe social media has changed a therapeutic decision, CV prevention strategy or decision on interventional procedure



Social media in cardiovascular medicine







My personal preference for daily use - Twitter







Twitter present vs. future

Business | Freed or caged?

Elon Musk buys Twitter at last

Now comes the hard part



Oct 28th 2022







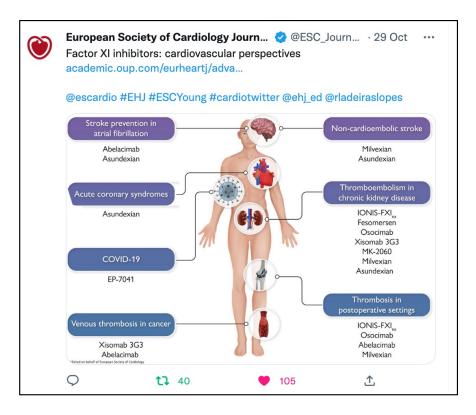
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The @ESC_Journals Twitter Handle







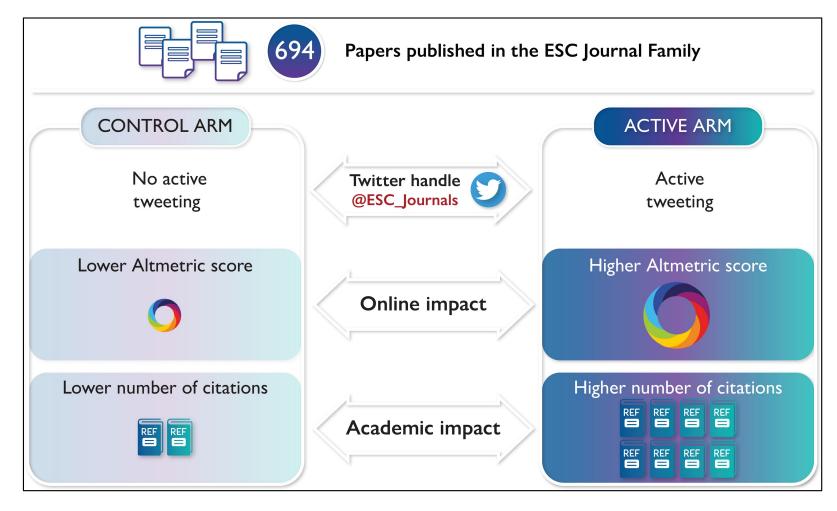
The ESC Journals Randomised Study

	Twitter arm N = 347	Control arm N = 347
Days since online publishing, median (IQR)	992 (938–1065)	994 (934–1063)
Corresponding author, n (%)		
EU	238 (68.6)	234 (67.4)
US	57 (16.4)	58 (16.7)
Non-EU/non-US	52 (15.0)	55 (15.9)
Type of article, n (%)		
Original	300 (86.5)	306 (88.1)
Review	36 (10.4)	28 (8.1)
Case report	10 (2.9)	10 (2.9)
Editorial	1 (0.2)	3 (0.9)

European Heart Journal	83 (23.9)	79 (22.8)
EP Europace	50 (14.4)	51 (14.7)
EHJ—Cardiovascular Imaging	47 (13.5)	46 (13.3)
European Journal of Preventive Cardiology	37 (10.7)	37 (10.7)
European Journal of Heart Failure	27 (7.8)	27 (7.8)
EHJ—Acute Cardiovascular Care	24 (6.9)	24 (6.9)
Cardiovascular Research	23 (6.6)	24 (6.9)
ESC Heart Failure	20 (5.8)	21 (6.1)
European Journal of Cardiovascular Nursing	13 (3.8)	12 (3.5)
EHJ—Quality of Care and Clinical Outcomes	9 (2.6)	10 (2.9)
EHJ—Case Reports	8 (2.3)	8 (2.3)
EHJ—Cardiovascular Pharmacotherapy	6 (1.7)	8 (2.3)

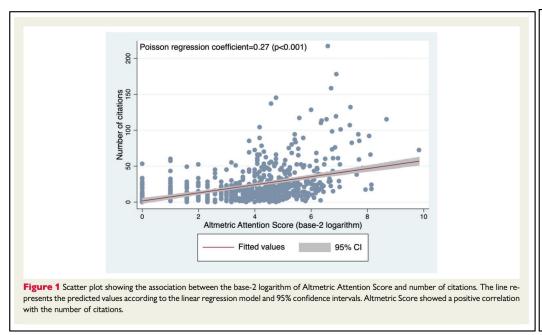


The ESC Journals Randomised Study





The ESC Journals Randomised Study



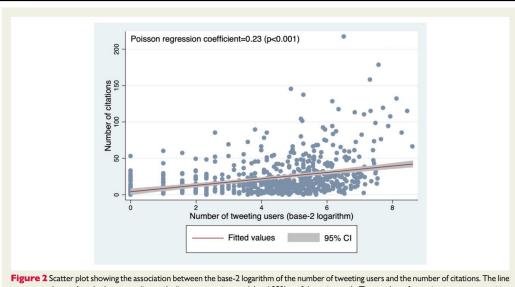


Figure 2 Scatter plot showing the association between the base-2 logarithm of the number of tweeting users and the number of citations. The line represents the predicted values according to the linear regression model and 95% confidence intervals. The number of tweeting users was a positive predictor of the number of citations.

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Social media in cardiovascular medicine



European Heart Journal – Digital Health (2020) 1, 10–19 European Society doi:10.1093/ehjdh/ztaa004

REVIEW

Social media in cardiovascular medicine: a contemporary review

Ricardo Ladeiras-Lopes^{1,2}*, Lavinia Baciu³, Julia Grapsa⁴, Afzal Sohaib^{4,5}, Rafael Vidal-Perez⁶, Allan Bohm^{7,8}, Harri Silvola⁹, Maria Rubini Gimenez^{10,11}, Saverio Muscoli¹², Markus Wallner^{13,14}, Amina Rakisheva¹⁵, Vivien Klaudia Nagy¹⁶, Martin R. Cowie¹⁷, Sarah C. Clarke¹⁸, and Stephan Achenbach¹⁹ On Behalf of the 'Cardiologists of Tomorrow', Digital Health and Media Committees of the European Society of Cardiology

¹Cardiology Department, Gaia Hospital Centre, Vila Nova de Gaia, Portugal; ²Cardiovascular Research Centre, Faculty of Medicine, University of Porto, Porto, Portogal; ³European Society of Cardiology; ⁴Barts Heart Centre, London, UK; ⁵Barking, Havering and Redbridge University Hospitals, London, UK; ⁶Department of Cardiology, Hospital Universitario Lucus Augusti, Lugo, Spain; ⁷Department of Acute Cardiology, National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases, Bratislava, Slovakia; ⁸Academy - Research Organization, Bratislava, Slovakia; ⁹Department of Cardiology, Oulu University Hospital, Oulu, Finland; ¹⁰Heart Centre Leipzig, Leipzig, Germany; ¹¹University Hospital of Basel, Basel, Switzerland; ¹²Department of Cardiology, Policlinico Universitario "Tor Vergata", Rome, Italy; ¹³Lewis Katz School of Medicine, Temple University, Cardiovascular Research Center, Philadelphia, PA, USA; ¹⁴Division of Cardiology, Medical University of Graz, Graz, Austria; ¹⁵Cardiology Department, Scientific and Research Institute of Cardiology and Internal Diseases, Almaty, Kazakhstan; ¹⁶Semmelweiss University Heart and Vascular Centre, Budapest, Hungary; ¹⁷Digital Health Committee of the European Society of Cardiology, Imperial College London (Royal Brompton Hospital), London, UK; ¹⁸Media Committee of the European Society of Cardiology, Royal Papworth Hospital, Cambridge, UK; and ¹⁹Department of Cardiology, Friedrich-Alexander-University Erlangen-Nürnberg, Erlangen, Germany

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Social media in cardiovascular medicine

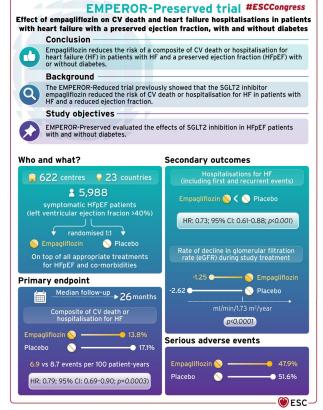
Strengths

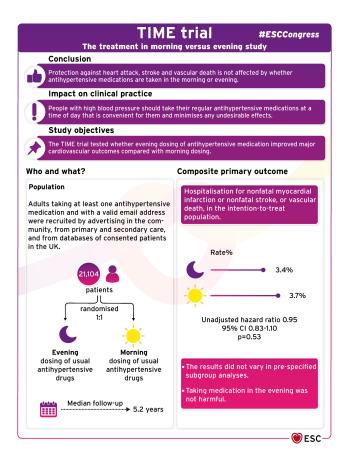
- Cost, accessibility, speed
- Medical education and research dissemination
- Networking and peer discussion
- Public and patient engagement



Social media strengths





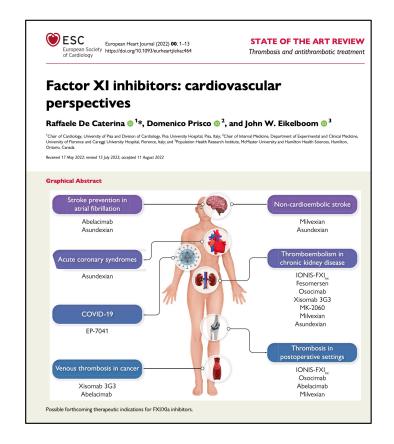


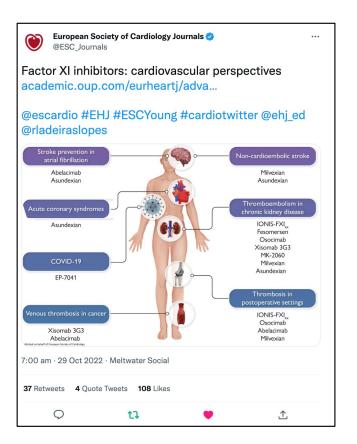
ESC Congress 2021

ESC Congress 2022



Social media strengths







Social media in cardiovascular medicine

Weaknesses

- Inacurate or biased information
- Privacy concerns and the "filter bubble"
- Breach of confidentiality
- Patient-physician relationship
- Non-professionalism and problematic social media use



Social media weaknesses

Science

Lies spread faster than the truth

There is worldwide concern over false news and the possibility that it can influence political, economic, and social well-being. To understand how false news spreads, Vosoughi *et al.* used a data set of rumor cascades on Twitter from 2006 to 2017. About 126,000 rumors were spread by ~3 million people. False news reached more people than the truth; the top 1% of false news cascades diffused to between 1000 and 100,000 people, whereas the truth rarely diffused to more than 1000 people. Falsehood also diffused faster than the truth. The degree of novelty and the emotional reactions of recipients may be responsible for the differences observed.



Social media weaknesses

Circulation

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EDITORIAL

Medical Misinformation

Vet the Message!

Joseph A. Hill, MD, PhD, Stefan Agewall, MD, PhD, Adrian Baranchuk, MD, George W. Booz, PhD, Jeffrey S. Borer, MD, Paolo G. Camici, MD, Peng-Sheng Chen, MD, Anna F. Dominiczak, DBE, MD, Çetin Erol, MD, PhD, Cindy L. Grines, MD, Robert Gropler, MD, Tomasz J. Guzik, MD, PhD, Markus K. Heinemann, MD, PhD, Ami E. Iskandrian, MD, Bradley P. Knight, MD, Barry London, MD, PhD, Thomas F. Lüscher, MD, Marco Metra, MD, Kiran Musunuru, MD, PhD, MPH, Brahmajee K. Nallamothu, MD, MPH, Andrea Natale, MD, Sanjeev Saksena, MD, Michael H. Picard, MD, Sunil V. Rao, MD, Willem J. Remme, MD, PhD, Robert S. Rosenson, MD, Nancy K. Sweitzer, MD, PhD, Adam Timmis, MD, and Christiaan Vrints, MD, PhD

Without exaggeration, significant harm, to society and individuals, derives from the wanton spread of medical misinformation. It is high time that this stop, and we lay at the feet of the purveyors of internet and social media content the responsibility to fix this.



Take-home messages

- Social media is a powerful ally to cardiovascular healthcare professionals.
- Social media literacy is mandatory.
- We play an active role in optimizing the role of social media in cardiovascular medicine.

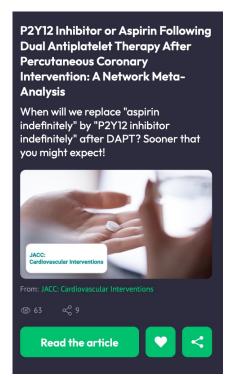


It's not only about social media...don't forget the apps!













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