

Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. banned from Instagram for spreading vaccine misinformation and COVID conspiracy theories

Instagram on [February 10] took down the account of [controversial anti-vaccine activist](#) Robert F. Kennedy Jr.

“We removed this account for repeatedly sharing debunked claims about the coronavirus or vaccines,” a spokesperson for Facebook, which owns Instagram, said in a statement.

Kennedy, the son of late former US Attorney General, US Senator and presidential candidate Robert F. Kennedy, has [repeatedly spoken out against vaccines](#). He has lobbied Congress to give parents exemptions from state requirements that mandate they vaccinate their children. The lifelong Democrat downplays his anti-vaccine views, though, by saying that he is actually in favor of safe vaccines and noting that all of his children have been vaccinated.

Kennedy's [Facebook page](#), with more than 300,000 followers, was still active at the time of publication. The company spokesperson said there were no plans to take down that page “at this time.”

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Facebook has struggled for years to crack down on vaccine misinformation, and announced yet another effort to do so earlier this week.

On [February 8], the company [announced several ways](#) it plans to better combat vaccine misinformation, including making it harder to find accounts through searches on Facebook-owned Instagram that discourage people from getting vaccinated.

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