

# Covid-19 on Twitter

Mapping the actors, their relations and sub-groups

published on March 31, 2020 by [Clément Levallois](#), Associate Professor at [emlyon business school](#)

**Based on the methodology published in ([free pdf download](#)):**

Benabdulkrim, M., Levallois, C., Savinien, J., & Robardet, C. (2020). Opening Fields: A Methodological Contribution to the Identification of Heterogeneous Actors in Unbounded Relational Orders. *M@n@gement*, 23(1), 4-18.

<https://doi.org/10.37725/mgmt.v23.4245>

Contact: [levallois@em-lyon.com](mailto:levallois@em-lyon.com) or @seinecle on Twitter

# Very brief note on these pictures

1. I selected 3 Twitter accounts: [@COVID19Tracking](#) [@CoronavirusESP](#) and [@ItaliaCovid19](#)
2. Then our algorithm identified thousands of similar Twitter accounts, based on the [Twitter lists](#) they share
3. The pictures show similar Twitter accounts next to each other. Groups of closely similar Twitter accounts are shown **in different colors**.
4. Text analysis: for each group of Twitter accounts, an algorithm identifies the most relevant words (most frequent words in the Twitter bios of the members of the group)

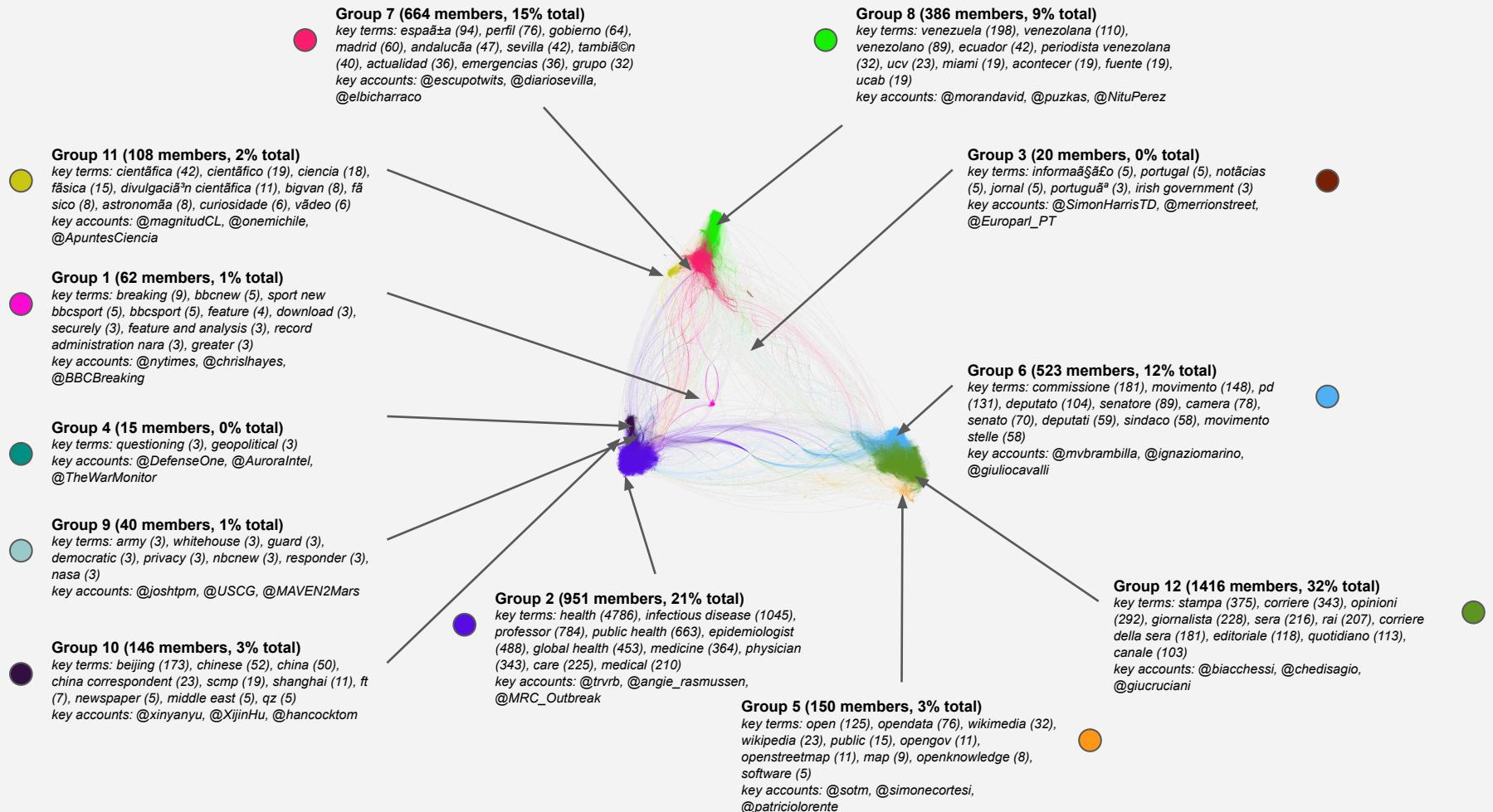
See this free

# Objectives and disclaimer

- These maps are provided ‘as is’, in the hope they will be useful to the individuals and organizations trying to make sense of the epidemics (journalists? NGOs? Governments?)
- Get in touch at [levallois@em-lyon.com](mailto:levallois@em-lyon.com) for questions and further research

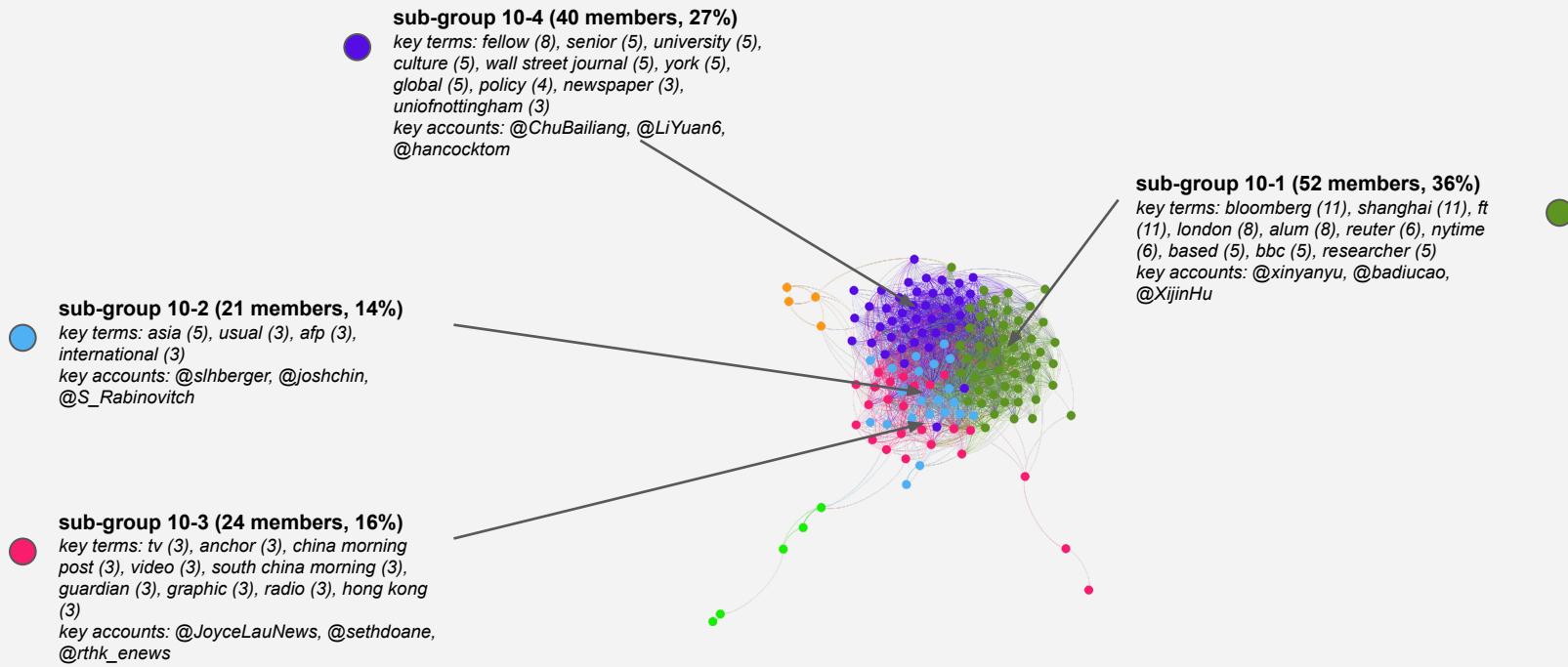
# Global picture

4,486 Twitter accounts

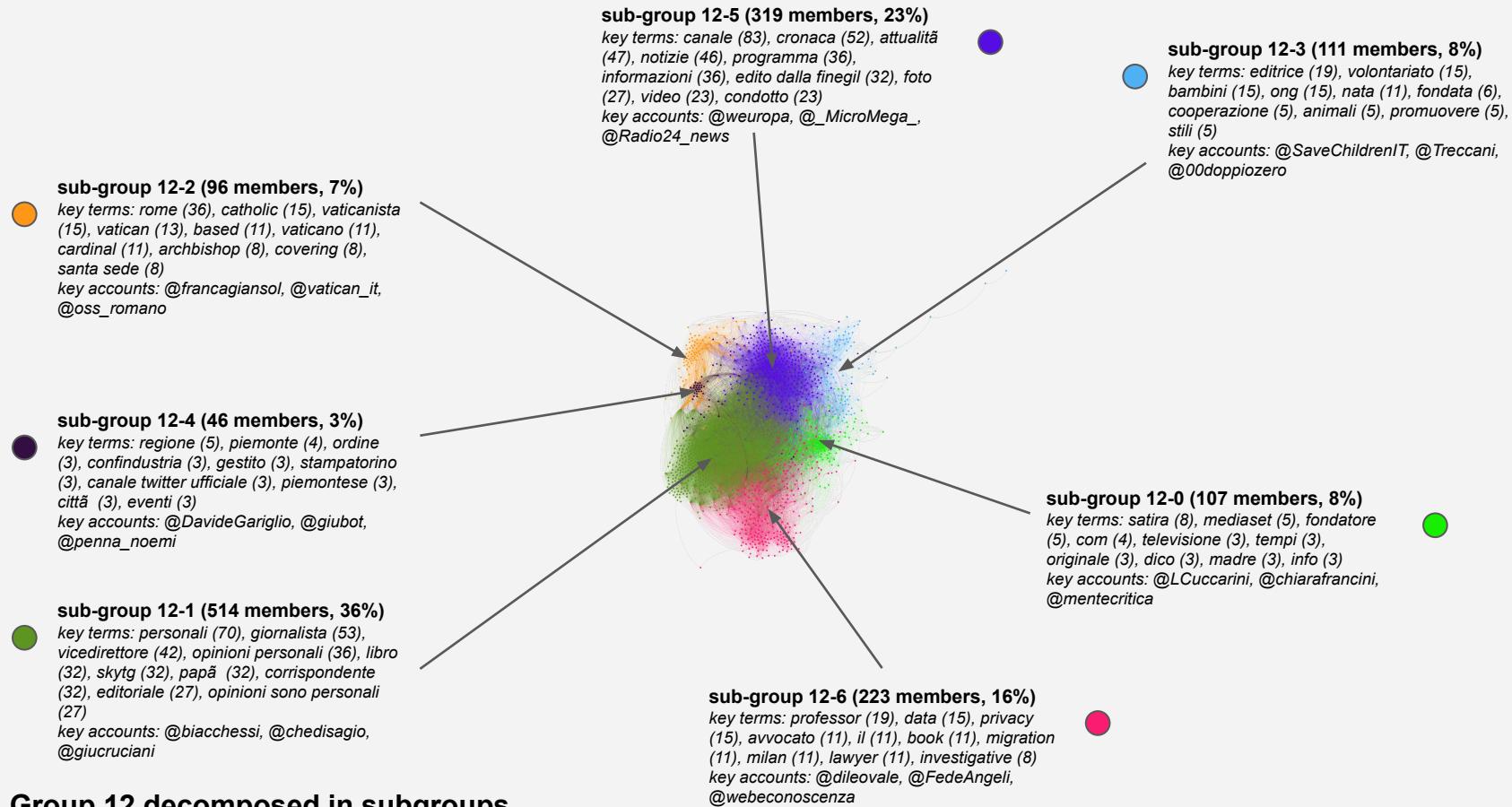


# Zoom on key groups

*The following slides zoom on one of the colored regions  
of the global picture*



**Group 10 decomposed in subgroups.**  
**146 members. Key terms: china, beijing, correspondent**



## Key group - worth further investigation!

### sub-group 2-1 (311 members, 33%)

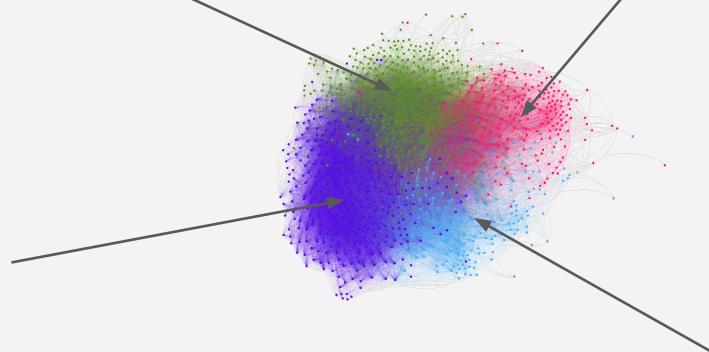
key terms: coronavirus (207), source (32), covid (20), nyc (19), global (15), update (15), covid coronavirus (15), report (15), analysis (15), disaster (15)  
key accounts: @trvrb, @angie\_rasmussen, @MRC\_Outbreak

### sub-group 2-3 (281 members, 30%)

key terms: epidemiologist (42), epidemiology (31), infectious disease epidemiologist (26), postdoc (23), mathematical (23), influenza (21), dept (19), epi (19), study (18), studying (18)  
key accounts: @SaskiaPopescu, @CT\_Bergstrom, @JenniferNuzzo

### sub-group 2-2 (193 members, 20%)

key terms: statnew (16), columnist (15), health reporter (15), reporter (13), globe (11), leading (11), pharma (11), write (11), wsj (11), care (10)  
key accounts: @Atul\_Gawande, @EricTopol, @ashishkjha



### sub-group 2-0 (166 members, 17%)

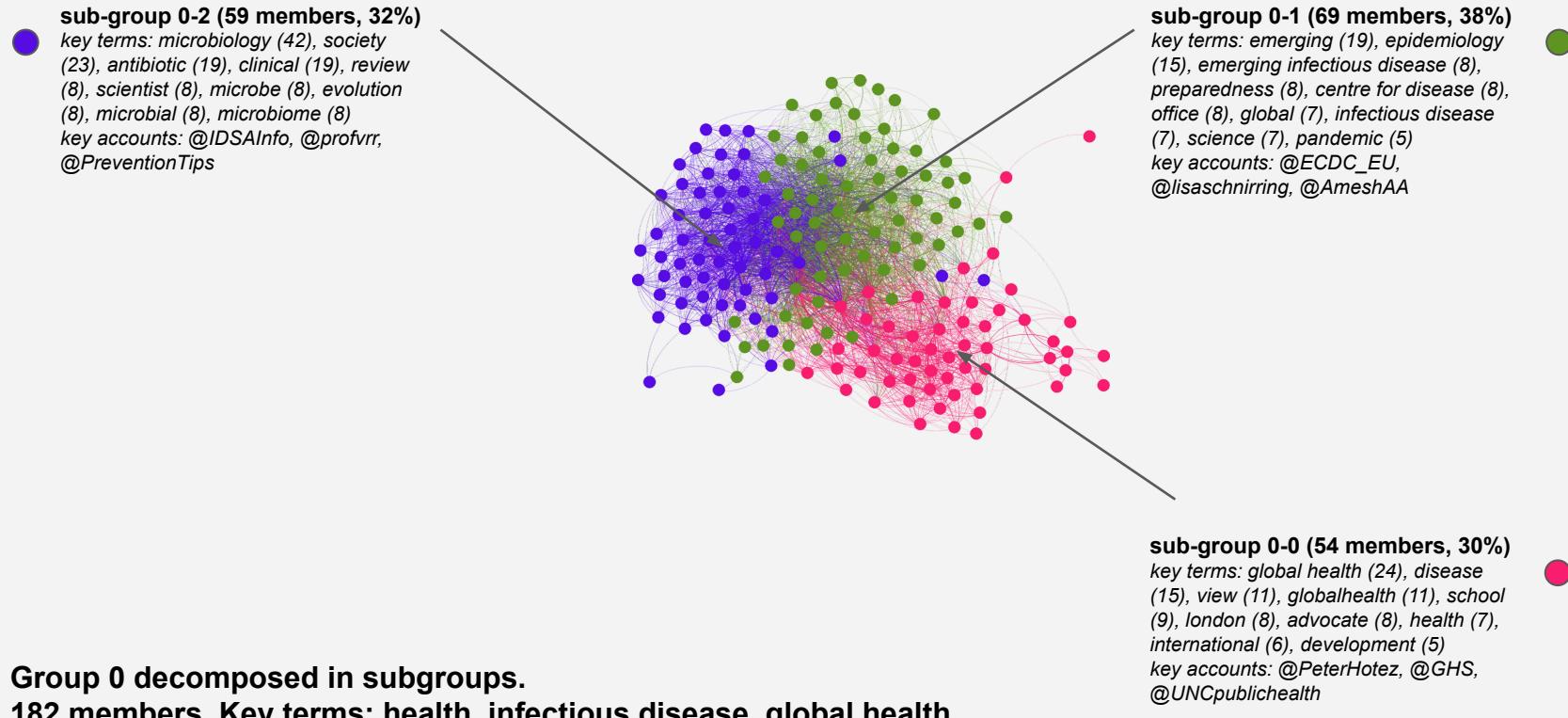
key terms: antibiotic (23), tropical (19), office (15), organization (11), disease (11), peer reviewed (8), bioinformatic (8), prevention and control (8), supporting (8), microbiome (8)  
key accounts: @PeterHotez, @ECDC\_EU, @profvrr

Group 2 decomposed in subgroups.

951 members. Key terms: health, infectious disease, professor

# A zoom on the four subgroups of group 2

*Breaking down the 4 groups in smaller communities*



**sub-group 1-0 (120 members, 43%)**  
key terms: *globalhealth* (23), *virus* (19), *epidemiologist* (13), *college* (11), *ecology* (11), *doc* (11), *control* (11), *modelling* (11), *infectious disease epidemiology* (8), *associate professor* (8)  
key accounts: @SCBriand, @AbraarKaran, @BhadeliaMD

**sub-group 1-1 (72 members, 26%)**  
key terms: *disease* (36), *security* (5), *program* (5), *modeling* (4), *student* (4), *institute* (4), *dept* (4), *health science* (3), *developing* (3), *instagram* (3)  
key accounts: @JenniferNuzzo, @joshmich, @hayesluk

**sub-group 1-2 (85 members, 31%)**  
key terms: *global* (42), *centre* (8), *genetic* (5), *advisor* (5), *africa* (5), *regional* (5), *genomic* (5), *reporter* (5), *region* (5), *infection prevention* (5)  
key accounts: @SaskiaPopescu, @CT\_Bergstrom, @KindrachukJason

**Group 1 decomposed in subgroups.**  
**277 members. Key terms: health, infectious disease, epidemiologist**



### sub-group 2-3 (24 members, 13%)

key terms: director (8), big (5), journalism (5), natgeo (3), blogger (3), mom (3), nerd (3), science policy (3), cell (3), blog (3)  
key accounts: @laurahelmuth, @statnews, @picardonhealth



### sub-group 2-4 (32 members, 18%)

key terms: leading (8), medical journal (8), cdc (5), disease (5), national (5), weekly (5), red (3), subject (3), link (3), association (3)  
key accounts: @CDC\_eHealth, @EricTopol, @JohnsHopkinsSPH



### sub-group 2-1 (17 members, 9%)

key terms: education (8), community (5), hh (3), providing (3), clinical (3), university (3), visit (3), department (3), integrated (3), privacy policy (3)  
key accounts: @HHSGov, @HopkinsMedicine, @MountSinaiNYC



### sub-group 2-2 (38 members, 21%)

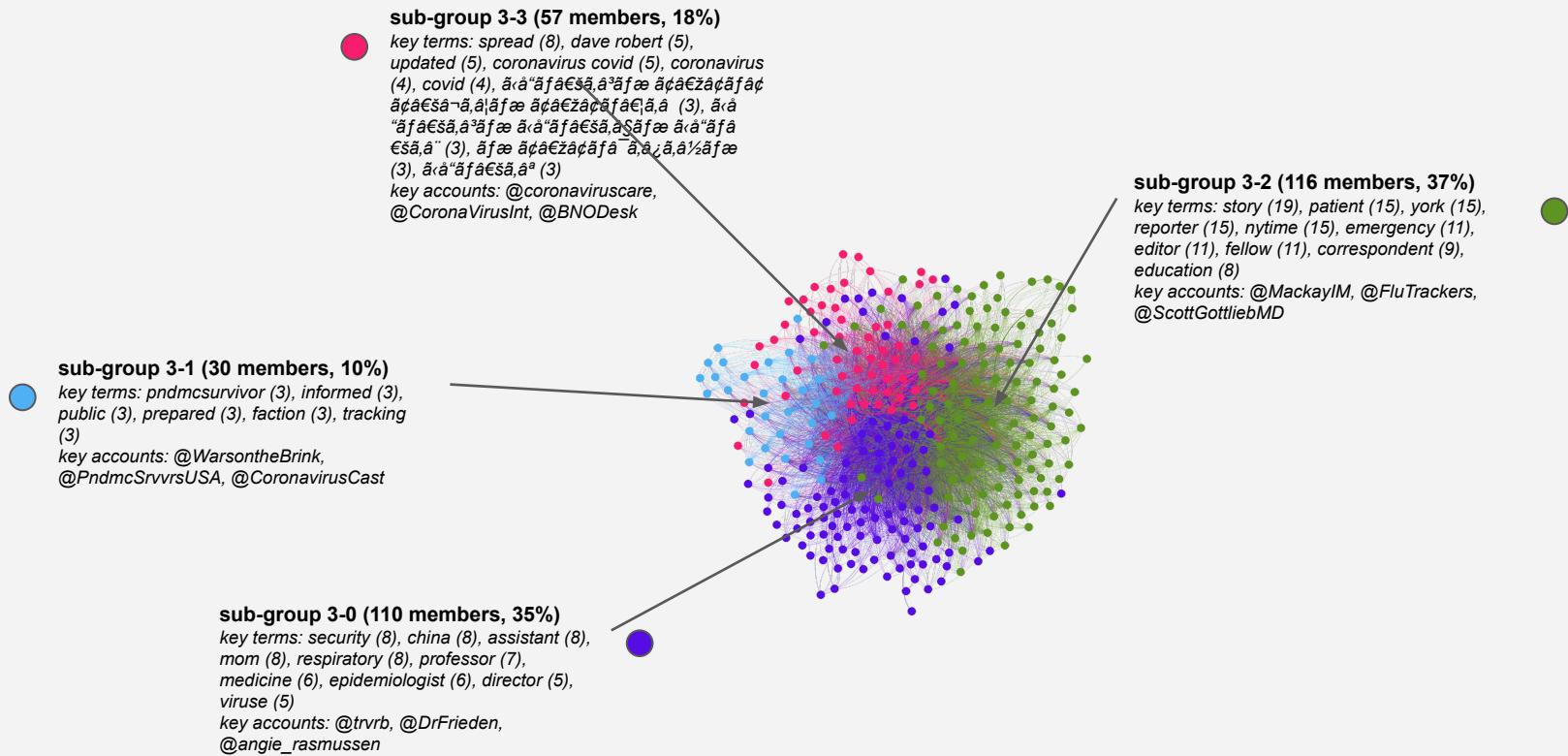
key terms: physician (16), care (12), doctor (6), dean (5), school (5), emergency physician (5), doc (5), advocate (5), foamed (5), faculty (5)  
key accounts: @Bob\_Wachter, @ashishkjha, @DavidJuurlink

### sub-group 2-0 (68 members, 38%)

key terms: reporter (148), statnew (32), health reporter (15), covering (14), writer (11), view (11), wsj (11), biotech (11), senior (9), healthcare (9)  
key accounts: @DrewQJoseph, @megaphone, @juliaoftoronto

**Group 2 decomposed in subgroups.**

**179 members. Key terms: health, science, reporter**



**Group 3 decomposed in subgroups.**  
**313 members. Key terms: health, coronavirus, covid**