



Plenary sitting

B8-1404/2016

20.12.2016

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

pursuant to Rule 133 of the Rules of Procedure

on borreliosis

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Motion for a European Parliament resolution on borreliosis

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Article 168 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,
- having regard to Rule 133 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas borreliosis is caused by the bacteria ‘borrelia burgdorferi’, ‘borrelia afzelii’ and ‘borrelia garinii’ and is transmitted to humans through infected ticks;
- B. whereas the symptoms of borreliosis consist in benign skin disorders, but if not treated with suitable antibiotics serious complications may develop in the nervous and coronary systems of the person infected (10 % of cases);
- C. whereas approximately 360 000 cases of borreliosis have been diagnosed in Europe in the past twenty years, and particularly in the Czech Republic, Estonia, Lithuania and Slovenia where, in view of the high percentage of ticks infected with the bacteria (up to 40 %), the prevalence observed can be as high as 130 cases per 100 000 inhabitants (Slovenia);
- D. whereas borreliacidal antibody tests lack specificity and sensitivity and no preventive vaccine has been developed to date;
- 1. Encourages the Commission to support scientific research aimed at developing both a reliable borreliacidal antibody test that minimises the incidence of false positive results, and a vaccine against borreliosis.