

WRITTEN QUESTION E-0051/03
by Struan Stevenson (PPE-DE)
to the Commission

Subject: Prescribed drug abuse

In moving to stop over-the-counter sales of certain food supplements and herbal products, what research has the Commission conducted to prove any detrimental effect from such products, and are there copies of the information on which the decision was made, available for examination?

What funding has the Commission made available to biomedical research and development in human medicine within Europe?

What funding has the Commission made available for research into the long-term effects of prescribed psychiatric drugs on patients in medical services in Europe?

What is the diagnosed rate of the following conditions within the European Union: autistic spectrum disease, attention deficit disorder, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, schizophrenia, dyslexia, dyspraxia, Down's syndrome?

What auditing system is in place to ensure that information supplied by pharmaceutical companies when registering new drugs is the full information and that adverse trial information is not withheld from patients and the licensing authorities?