

**Question for written answer E-006204/2014
to the Council**
Rule 130
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Subject: EU actions to tackle pancreatic cancer

By 2020, the second-greatest number of deaths from cancer will be from pancreatic cancer, which will be second only to breast cancer. Pancreatic cancer has, however, been largely absent from the political agenda up to now. Most patients with pancreatic cancer are diagnosed at a metastatic stage, by which time they only have a few months left to live, the median survival rate after diagnosis with metastatic pancreatic cancer being three months. The European Pancreatic Cancer Index has shown the tremendous lack of data collection and screening practices in numerous Member States.

It is encouraging that the current Council Presidency Trio has identified the prevention of chronic diseases as a priority and that the Italian Presidency specifically mentions the prevention of cancer amongst its priorities. Taking into account these priorities and the increasingly worrying public health challenges posed by pancreatic cancer:

1. Does the Council recognise the need to put pancreatic cancer higher on the political agenda and to act in order to address the specific needs of patients with pancreatic cancer?
2. Considering the successful policies put in place for breast, colorectal and cervical cancers, what concrete actions can the Council recommend and implement to reduce mortality rates in pancreatic cancer?