

**Question for written answer E-002097/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

José Blanco López (S&D)

Subject: Increased incidence of chicken pox

According to data published by the Carlos III Health Institute the incidence of chicken pox rose by 13.2 % in Spain in 2014, after the Ministry of Health decided the year before to suspend the sale of the vaccine in pharmacies. This decision has been criticised by the scientific associations of paediatrics, vaccinology and preventive medicine, who recommend that the vaccine should be prescribed for children under 12, given that 90 % of all cases occur in this age group.

1. Is the Commission aware of the rise in the incidence of chicken pox in Spain? Is it concerned that the decision adopted by the Spanish Government has led to such a huge rise in the percentage of registered infections?
2. Has the Commission asked the Spanish Government why it took that decision?
3. Has the Commission made any specific recommendation to Spain in this regard?