

**Question for written answer E-004752/2015**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Franz Obermayr (NI)**

Subject: Increasing danger posed by resistant microbes

Every year, 25 000 people across the EU die from infections caused by resistant bacteria, and this figure is expected to rise. Many bacterial infections are readily treatable, but medical personnel are warning of an increased resistance to antibiotics. As is known, the main cause of such resistance is the inappropriate use of antibiotics in human medicine. Medicinal products may only be used when they are genuinely necessary; moreover, the dosage must be correct. A further problem is posed by animal feed. Antibiotics are often routinely mixed into feed as a disease prevention measure. Resistant microbes are thus transmitted to humans through milk, meat and other food products.

Can the Commission answer the following questions in relation to these worrying facts:

1. Is the Commission aware of the above circumstances?
2. Many doctors are under pressure and are very often poorly informed when dealing with their patients. What proposals will the Commission present to ensure that doctors have more time for their patients, so that they can inform and examine them properly?
3. Does the Commission believe that action is needed to provide more intensive support to research and development in this field?