

**Question for written answer E-006999/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Elena Gentile (S&D)

Subject: European policies for the prevention and control of hospital infections

The increase in the number of hospital infection cases and the question of patient safety are of paramount importance for the EU. An authoritative British scientific journal has published research findings indicating that, in the near future, around 80 000 cases of hospital infection are expected to occur in the UK alone and estimating at 3 million throughout the EU the number of patients at risk, that is to say vulnerable patients requiring treatment for chronic diseases, immunosuppressive treatment or treatment for cancer. The bacteria responsible for the frequently fatal infections belong to a strain of micro-organisms resistant to antibiotics currently available. It is therefore necessary for the Commission to promote medical research and take action to raise awareness in the Member States.

Will the European Commission provide funding under Horizon 2020 for tendering procedures specifically relating to research into the development of antibiotics resistant to such micro-organisms?

Does it intend to launch an awareness-raising campaign regarding the appropriate use of medicines and a reduction in the number of hospitalisations, requiring the Member States also to verify the safety of medical staff at work?