Question for written answer E-010892/2015 to the Commission Rule 130 Gabriel Mato (PPE) and Carlos Iturgaiz (PPE)

Subject: Support for multiple sclerosis sufferers

Around 700 000 people in Europe have multiple sclerosis: it is the most common neurodegenerative disorder and the second biggest cause of disability in young adults, after traffic accidents. Most sufferers are diagnosed between the ages of 20 and 40, meaning that the disease can seriously interfere with patients' working and family lives.

In a resolution in 2012, the European Parliament expressed concern at the differences in access to disease-modifying treatments for MS and the quality of medical care, and asked the Commission to step up its research efforts and implement measures to ensure equal access to treatment, as well as flexible working policies.

What progress has been made in meeting these objectives?

How is the Commission currently supporting research programmes on multiple sclerosis, both in terms of treatment and in terms of the causes of the disease and the possibility of alleviating the negative effects for sufferers?

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