

**Question for written answer E-003780/2016  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Diabetes research

The incidence of diabetes is escalating rapidly in the EU. In the adult population (20-79 years), the incidence has increased from 4.9 % in 2000 to 9.1 % in 2015, meaning that 60 million European citizens today suffer from the disease. In some countries, such as Spain, the situation is even worse: approximately 13.8 % of the Spanish adult population suffer from diabetes.

The socioeconomic consequences of this trend are severe. Diabetes was responsible for approximately 627 000 deaths in 2015, absorbing 9 % of total healthcare expenditures in the EU.

Science aims to reverse this trend by stimulating the development of new diagnosis and treatment methods. In addition, scientists are working towards a cure for diabetes by conducting essential basic research on the underlying pathogenesis of the disease.

To facilitate these processes, the EU should play a more prominent role in funding and coordinating diabetes research efforts.

What measures does the Commission foresee to advance diabetes research?

Is the Commission planning to focus more on basic research in the next Horizon 2020 work programmes?

Is the Commission in favour of a Joint Programme Initiative on diabetes?