

**Question for written answer E-000303/2017
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Notis Marias (ECR)

Subject: Meningitis B Bexsero vaccine available for free in Greece

Cases of meningitis B are recorded in Europe every year, many of which prove fatal. In Greece, 57 cases of meningitis B were recorded in 2015.

According to WHO data, approximately one in ten patients dies despite treatment. Furthermore, one in five meningitis survivors suffers from permanent disabilities, including brain damage, epileptic seizures, hearing loss and learning disorders, and may even need amputation.

Vaccination is the most efficient prevention and protection measure against this disease. In Greece, impoverished due to austerity policies, parents themselves are burdened with vaccination costs. Note that each Bexsero vaccine costs about EUR 105; infants 2-6 months of age need 4 vaccine doses, children from 6 months to 2 years old need 3 doses, and children above 2 years of age need 2 vaccine doses.

In view of this, what funding will the Commission allocate to cover the total cost of meningitis B vaccinations in Greece, and distribute the meningitis B Bexsero vaccine for free?