

**Question for written answer E-001584/2017
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Lorenzo Fontana (ENF)

Subject: Statistics on and support measures for uveitis patients

Diagnosing and treating inflammatory diseases of the eyes are two of the most complex tasks carried out by ophthalmologists. There are many types of uveitis and it is estimated that in 50% of cases the cause cannot be identified.

What is more, uveitis patients become increasingly disabled as the disease progresses: in almost all cases, they have to stop working and consequently see their incomes fall.

1. Does the Commission know how many cases of uveitis have been recorded in the Member States and, if so, how many of those patients have had to stop working?
2. Can it say whether uveitis is recognised and treated as a rare disease, and if so, in how many Member States?
3. Can it briefly summarise the steps it plans to take to help the people affected by this disease?