

**Question for written answer E-000644/2019  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Merja Kyllönen (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: Harmonising laboratory test reporting practices within the EU

Many northern Europeans move to southern-Europe, be it to spend their retirement there or for work reasons. In their new homes they use local health services, of which laboratory testing, including blood tests, forms part and parcel. However, the different ways in which they are recorded make results more difficult to understand. Examination terms, for example, can vary considerably from one Member State to the next.

If laboratory reports were produced in standard forms throughout the EU, it would be easier for patients to understand their results, and this would reduce the risk of misunderstandings and help dispel the anxiety that it is only human to feel.

Does the Commission have any means of promoting the harmonisation of reporting practices within the EU?