

**Question for written answer E-001812/2019
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Need to ensure newborn screening across the EU

Prevention is one of the main health priorities at EU level and across Europe today. Screening newborns for certain disorders, such as PKU, is one of the concrete measures that Member States can take in order to make a practical contribution to disease prevention. Screening enables the diagnosis of severe and rare disorders as early as possible so that they can be appropriately treated, better managed and even cured.

However, not all newborns are systematically screened in the EU, despite the fact that measures and rules are in place in many Member States. The Commission has already recognised the importance of this topic and has taken several steps to put in place an EU framework for newborn screening.

Given the potential positive impact of newborn screening and its significant contribution to disease prevention, would the Commission agree to address this topic as part of the work programme of the Steering Group on Health Promotion and Prevention, which acts as the main public health committee of the EU, by exploring recommendations with a view to closing the existing gaps in this practice?