ORAL QUESTION H-0012/03 for Question Time at the part-session in February 2003 pursuant to Rule 43 of the Rules of Procedure by Per-Arne Arvidsson to the Commission

Subject: Measures to combat primary immune deficiency

Primary immune deficiency is a relatively unknown disease which is under-diagnosed and often results in unnecessary suffering for the individuals affected. The number of people in the EU who have a primary immune deficiency is estimated to be at least 1.5 million. In severe cases, the condition can result in premature death. Infant mortality can be caused by primary immune deficiency. Knowledge within this field must be improved among healthcare workers, the general public and decision-makers throughout Europe. Networks for the exchange of knowledge and research should be developed.

Can the Commission envisage including primary immune deficiency in the general public health strategy and the research framework programme?

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