



9.2.2015

0006/2015

WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 136 of the Rules of Procedure

on the prevention and treatment of head and neck cancers

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Deadline for reply: 9.5.2015

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Written declaration, pursuant to Rule 136 of the Rules of Procedure, on the prevention and treatment of head and neck cancers¹

1. Head and neck cancers are the sixth most common form of cancer worldwide.
2. Every year 150 000 people in Europe are diagnosed with head and neck cancers; 70 000 of them die.
3. In some 60 % of cases the disease is diagnosed at an advanced stage and about half of the people concerned die within five years.
4. Patients who are diagnosed and treated in the early stages of the disease have an 80-90 % chance of survival.
5. A multidisciplinary approach involving experts in various areas reduces the time taken to diagnose and treat head and neck cancers.
6. The Commission is therefore called upon to:
 - propose a series of measures designed to ensure that people in Europe are sufficiently well informed about the symptoms of head and neck cancers;
 - encourage the Member States to employ the multidisciplinary approach and draw up European guidelines;
 - organise courses to raise awareness about the need to adopt a healthy lifestyle.
7. This declaration, together with the names of the signatories, is forwarded to the Council and the Commission.

¹ In accordance with Rule 136(4) and (5) of Parliament's Rules of Procedure, when the declaration is signed by a majority of Parliament's component Members, it shall be published in the minutes with the names of its signatories and forwarded to the addressees, without however binding Parliament.