

WRITTEN QUESTION E-0233/01  
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to the Commission

Subject: Economy class syndrome

Although reports concerning cases of what is known as 'economy class syndrome' appear relatively frequently in the media, the syndrome would appear to be responsible for many more deaths than is actually reported.

The syndrome consists in the formation of blood clots in the legs or hips of passengers during flights lasting more than two hours. Owing to the prolonged immobility, those blood clots can travel to the brain and cause death.

Given the importance of this issue and the fact that preventive measures can be taken with a view to reducing the health risk, does the Commission intend to take steps to ensure that airlines introduce such measures?