

WRITTEN QUESTION E-1579/06  
by Peter Skinner (PSE)  
to the Commission

Subject: Smoking cessation

Is the Commission aware that the World Health Organisation has recognised that the vast majority of smoking-related deaths over the next 25 years will come from existing smokers and that increasing smoking cessation policies for adults is critically important to improving public health in the short to medium term? The WHO has also collected international evidence showing that all commercially available nicotine replacement therapy products and other cessation tools are effective as part of a strategy to promote smoking cessation.

In the light of this information, how does the EU give priority to smoking cessation treatments in its tobacco control policies, and will the Commission be taking further action to add smoking cessation to its two current policy initiatives of protection and prevention? If not, why not?