

**Question for written answer E-003240/2013
to the Commission**
Rule 117
Vilija Blinkevičiūtė (S&D)

Subject: Gestational diabetes testing in the European Union

Gestational diabetes and obesity during pregnancy increase perinatal morbidity and mortality, and the children of such women have a greater risk of later developing type 2 diabetes. The incidence of gestational diabetes in Europe currently ranges between 2 % and 22 %, but there are no general universal screenings, common testing methods or a universal assessment of test results.

Globally, efforts are underway to optimise universal prenatal screening in order to establish whether gestational diabetes is present. The US National Institutes of Health is working actively and putting forward proposals on this issue.

I would like to ask the Commission whether, given the damaging impact of this disease and its prevalence, action is currently being taken to prevent gestational diabetes and whether action is being taken to carry out general screening for this disease in the European Union.