

**Question for written answer E-000957/2014  
to the Commission**

Rule 117

**Rareş-Lucian Niculescu (PPE)**

Subject: Adverse effects of mouthwash

Mouthwash can increase the risk of heart attacks and strokes because the antiseptic solution kills good bacteria that help maintain low blood pressure, according to a study carried out by British researchers and published in the journal 'Free Radical Biology and Medicine'.

The blood pressure of volunteers who took part in the study rose within hours of using mouthwash. The healthy volunteers used mouthwash twice a day, and each time their blood pressure rose by between 2 and 3.5 units (millimetres of mercury). Moreover, this effect was seen on the very first day.

1. Will the Commission carry out similar studies?
2. Will the Commission revise the rules on such products and clarify the possible dangers posed by mouthwash containing the antiseptic chlorhexidine?