

**Question for written answer E-001618/2014  
to the Commission**  
Rule 117  
**Edite Estrela (S&D)**

Subject: Vaccines with aluminium salts

Whereas several scientific articles on the health risks of using aluminium particles as an adjuvant in vaccines, e.g. in vaccines against diphtheria, tetanus and poliomyelitis amongst others, describe the possibility of neurotoxic and neurodegenerative risks and negative consequences at the neurocognitive level, due to the effects of aluminium salts on the human brain;

Bearing in mind that these data have caused people doubts, in some cases leading to them refusing to take vaccines included in national vaccination programmes because of the use of aluminium salts, possibly jeopardising public health;

Bearing in mind that there are substitute adjuvants that do not present risks to human health, since they are organic components of the human body, such as calcium phosphate, which in some cases have ceased to be used on being replaced by these aluminium salts;

I ask the Commission:

Is it aware of the risk of neurotoxicity from vaccine adjuvants based on aluminium salts?

Does it know the reason for the replacement of organic adjuvants, such as calcium phosphate, which are risk-free for human health, by aluminium salts?

What measures does the Commission intend to take to further research in this area, to continue to ensure the safety of vaccines administered in the European Union and to promote public confidence in national vaccination programmes?