

**Question for written answer E-004659/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 117

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Subject: Homeopathic medicine

In recent years, homeopathy has been one of the most hotly debated types of therapy, often dividing both expert and public opinion. A new Australian study has found that homeopathic medicines are in no way any more effective than placebos. In practice, they fail to have any impact, either positive or negative, on such conditions as asthma, arthritis, sleep disorders, colds and flu, cholera, burns, malaria and heroin dependence. The study therefore confirms that there is no reliable evidence that homeopathy is effective. According to one of the researchers involved, the greatest danger comes from so-called 'vaccines', particularly if used for serious illnesses.

With regard to homeopathic medicine and in the light of the above study, could the Commission answer the following questions?

1. Is it aware of the study concerned?
2. Does it know of any other similar studies or, on the contrary, studies which have borne out the therapeutic effects of homeopathic medicines?
3. Does the Commission have any statistics on the consumption of homeopathic medicines in Europe?
4. Is there any European legislation concerning the sale of homeopathic medicines on the internal market?