

**Question for written answer E-013029/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Herbert Reul (PPE)

Subject: Patient's share of prescription costs for foreign pensioners in Spain

In April 2012, the Spanish health care system underwent reform under Royal Decree-Act 16/2012 and Royal Decree 1192/2012. New rules were introduced on prescription cost sharing.

People in employment with earnings above a set level are required to pay specific percentages of the cost of prescribed pharmaceutical products. As a general rule, EU nationals not permanently resident in Spain are required to pay 50%. Unemployed people not in receipt of benefits are exempt, as are people on a minimum pension or in financial need.

Under the new rules, pensioners are required to contribute 10% subject to a monthly ceiling of EUR 8 for those in the income band EUR 7 500 to 18 000, or EUR 18 for those in the EUR 18 000 to 100 000 band. Pensioners with an income of more than EUR 100 000 are required to pay 60% up to a monthly ceiling of EUR 60. The ceilings apply only to people covered by the Spanish social security system (Seguridad Social). Foreign pensioners, including EU citizens, normally have to pay 10% of their prescription costs, with no upper limit, and are required to submit a *declaración jurada* (sworn statement).

Form S1 (formerly E121) gives EU citizens living in a Member State other than their country of origin, including pensioners from other Member States, full entitlement to health-care services there.

What is the Commission's view of the payment requirement for EU pensioners in Spain?

Does it constitute discrimination between pensioners from other Member States and Spanish pensioners?

If so, how does the Commission intend to address this discrimination against EU pensioners in the Spanish health-care system?