

**Question for written answer E-002756/2017  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Marc Tarabella (S&D)**

Subject: Mercury and dentistry

By adopting the first reading of the regulation on mercury, repealing EC Regulation 1102/2008, the European Union has declared its support for the progressive ban of mercury in dentistry. It has done so firstly by banning the use of mercury in pregnant women and children, and then, after a phase-in period, by ensuring that dental amalgams containing mercury are authorised solely in very special, isolated cases.

This is good news for the health of European consumers. However, the changes in dentist equipment that prove necessary because of the ban could result in extra costs for dentists, which could in turn affect patients.

Does the Commission plan to provide the necessary means to ensure that the replacement of mercury fillings does not lead to extra costs, the victims of which may be the very poorest patients?