

**Question for written answer E-001927/2018  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Mairead McGuinness (PPE)**

Subject: Hepatitis B

The 69th World Health Assembly approved the Global Health Sector Strategy to eliminate viral hepatitis by 2030. New research from the medical journal *The Lancet Gastroenterology and Hepatology* found that only one in 100 expectant mothers living with the virus receives adequate treatment for hepatitis B. It is estimated that 600 000 people die every year from hepatitis B-related liver diseases.

The Commission's report entitled 'EU/EEA capacity for the surveillance of hepatitis B and C using molecular methods' states that: 'Currently, data on hepatitis B virus (HBV) and hepatitis C virus (HCV) genotypes are not widely reported by European Union/European Economic Area (EU/EEA) countries'. How does the Commission intend to increase the reporting of these viruses?

Given the commitment by the World Health Assembly and the prevalence of the virus, what action is the EU taking to address this serious issue?

As the virus is most common in east Asia and sub-Saharan Africa, is the EU tackling the spread of the viruses through its development work?