

**Question for written answer E-002904/2020/rev.1  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Tomislav Sokol (PPE)**

Subject: Waiting lists for non-COVID-19 patients during the pandemic

Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, health systems are facing a heavy strain, focusing mainly on patients infected with the SARS-CoV-2 virus. This has resulted in delays to certain procedures and treatments for non-COVID-19 patients. All this could lead to future health complications unrelated to COVID-19 becoming detectable and manifesting when it is too late. This approach of delaying medical examinations greatly increases the risk of a poorer outcome for the patient and/or could lead to more complex treatment procedures.

How does the Commission intend to respond to this type of problem at a time when there is an urgent need for an adequate and timely response to patients infected with COVID-19, while on the other hand we have citizens who wish not to be denied their right to health and the timely detection of possible diseases that could develop into something more serious?