

**Question for written answer E-001176/2021
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Radioligand therapies and the preparedness of European hospital infrastructure

The Commission has made a welcome commitment to implement the Europe Beating Cancer Plan. Given the public health threat posed by cancer, the proper implementation of this pan-European strategy is crucial to ensure the match of European resources and policies with the changing dynamics of cancer care.

Novel treatments, such as radioligand therapies, offer several advantages over other therapeutic approaches as they improve progression-free survival and quality of life in several cancer types. However, bringing these treatments to cancer patients requires infrastructure investments across European hospitals, including investments in robust facilities that are radio-protected and shielded to accommodate nuclear medicine therapies.

Given the increasing uptake of radioligand therapies, the European Union must invest in redesigning the infrastructure in healthcare settings to ensure the proliferation of new treatment options and equal access for all.

1. To what extent is the Commission considering hospital infrastructure investments in the scope of implementing the Beating Cancer Plan, through the use of EU funding mechanisms?
2. What further plans does the Commission have to address hospital preparedness, including nuclear waste disposal systems, to prepare European healthcare systems for the uptake of radioligand therapy treatments?
3. When creating an EU Network of National Comprehensive Centres, will the Commission consult relevant European organisations, such as SPARC-Europe, to identify the infrastructure needs of nuclear medicine departments?