

**Question for written answer E-002117/2021/rev.1  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Pascal Arimont (PPE)**

Subject: Support for financing COVID-19 drugs

According to media reports, the Technical University of Braunschweig and a biotechnology firm have developed an antibody drug (antibody therapy) against coronavirus which would be used particularly to treat hospitalised patients with moderate to serious COVID-19<sup>1</sup>. Clinical studies are said to have shown the drug to be highly effective, and it is set to undergo further trials in test centres in Germany and elsewhere in Europe. But researchers and the firm involved are short of funds, with press reports saying they need another EUR 50 million. Experts are calling for more support for the development of antibody drugs as well as vaccines.

1. What is the Commission's strategy for the rapid development of drugs to treat coronavirus?
2. Is the Commission currently supporting similar research projects aimed at developing drugs – apart from vaccines – against coronavirus?

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.zdf.de/nachrichten/video/corona-medikament-ohne-finanzierung-100.html> – <https://www.ndr.de/ratgeber/gesundheit/Antikoerper-Therapie-gegen-Corona-Welche-Medikamente-gibt-es,coronavirus4280.html>