

**Question for written answer E-002405/2021
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Joanna Kopcińska (ECR)

Subject: Long-term complications of COVID-19

We still have only a limited understanding of the COVID-19 recovery process. However, based on analyses of the clinical course of the disease in people signed up to studies and the treatment options applied to them, a number of worrying signs of the disease are emerging.

The BMJ reports in a number of published articles that patients are experiencing longer recovery times, especially as far as physical exertion is concerned. Doctors are stressing the potential long-term complications of COVID-19 ('post COVID-19' and 'long COVID').

So far, relatively few peer-reviewed articles have described the characteristics of long COVID, but patient groups are reporting their symptoms, which may be variable, recurrent or regressive, and may include respiratory, cardiovascular, urological, neurological, gastrointestinal and other unforeseen combinations. Long COVID is a condition which can last months, perhaps years; it may even be permanent.

1. Is the Commission considering the possibility of carrying out an analysis of the situation and drawing up a preliminary impact assessment of the potential risks from COVID?
2. Could a catalogue of guidelines for treatment options and comprehensive care for post COVID-19 and long COVID patients be included in the priorities for action taken by the Commission to return to the pre-pandemic state?