

**Question for written answer E-002429/2021
to the Commission**
Rule 138
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Subject: Corona antibody test as a valuable tool for vaccine prioritising

We all share the objective of achieving herd immunity through vaccination, which will soon let us move on from the pandemic. But in practical terms it is the availability and ease of delivery of vaccinations which is currently the problem.

At the same time there is an increasingly large group of people who have recovered: we can only guess how many, as we have to assume there are many unrecorded cases.

People who, whether they realise it or not, have recovered from Covid are mostly immune (according to the available data) and are supposed to need only one dose of vaccine to boost their immunity. This means they can be put at the back of the queue for vaccine prioritisation.

Immunity which has been acquired naturally by contracting the disease can be verified comparatively easily with a laboratory antibody test, which would enable a well-founded decision to be made on vaccine prioritisation.

I would therefore like to ask the following questions:

1. Is the Commission aware that antibody tests facilitate more targeted vaccine distribution among the population, thereby enabling herd immunity to be acquired more quickly?
2. According to information available to the Commission, which Member States are using laboratory antibody tests for vaccine prioritisation?
3. Does the Commission share the view that people who have recovered from Covid gain sufficient immunity with just one dose of vaccine and that previous infection which is known about therefore reduces the number of vaccines needed?