

**Question for written answer E-003106/2021
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Idoia Villanueva Ruiz (The Left)

Subject: Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS)

Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) is a neurodegenerative and fatal disease with no cure or effective treatment. There is no comprehensive knowledge of the causes of this disease or of possible treatments. Patients and victims of ALS face a desperate situation: in Spain alone, there are 900 new cases every year and a 90% mortality rate. In Europe, it is estimated that some 50 000 families are affected, but as there is no official data it is difficult to monitor them. The lack of knowledge, support or treatment available is due to the fact that little research is being undertaken and few resources are being provided to find a cure.

In the light of the above:

1. Does the Commission intend to establish a specific line of research into ALS in order to create a database on the disease's impact in the EU and carry out further research into its causes and possible treatments?
2. What assurances can the Commission give that there will be no discrimination between male and female patients and victims of ALS when it comes to gaining access to early treatments?