

**Question for written answer E-001680/2022
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Joanna Kopcińska (ECR)

Subject: Acute hepatitis

On 23 April 2022 the WHO reported an increase in cases of acute hepatitis of unknown aetiology in children. Earlier, on 19 April 2022, the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control reported further cases in children in Denmark, Ireland, the Netherlands and Spain, adding to the reports from the UK Health Security Agency about acute hepatitis cases in that country. At least 169 cases have been recorded so far: UK (114), Spain (13), Israel (12), USA (9), Denmark (6), Ireland (5), Netherlands (4), Italy (4), Norway (2), France (2), Romania (1), Belgium (1).

1. In connection with the ongoing toxicological and aetiological studies and with the research to establish the epidemiological picture and clinical characteristics of the recorded cases, how does the Commission intend to support the sharing of all available information with the Member States?
2. Despite claims that atypical hepatitis is unrelated to the COVID-19 vaccine, does the Commission plan to ask its agencies and networks, including the Hepatitis Network, the European Association for the Study of the Liver and the European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases to look in detail at the possible factors – such as other infections (including COVID-19), environmental causes and genetic studies of the structure of changes in the adenovirus genome – that may be responsible for these cases of acute hepatitis?