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Answer given by Ms Kyriakides on behalf of the European Commission (8.7.2022)

The Commission does not plan to adopt a specific European action plan on the prevention and monitoring of diabetes nor a directive, since as regards the latter Union competence to adopt such harmonising measures is limited under Article 168 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU.\(^1\)

However, diabetes is one of five strands of the new Healthier Together – EU Non-communicable diseases (NCD) initiative that will support EU countries in reducing the burden of NCDs and improve the citizens’ health\(^2\). In addition, reducing lifestyle-related risk factors of diabetes, such as unhealthy eating and physical inactivity, overweight and obesity is part of the health determinants strand of the same initiative. The initiative will make use, among others, of funding under the 2022 EU4Health Work Programme\(^3\), including an EU Joint Action addressing diabetes and cardiovascular diseases.

In addition, diabetes has been prominent in the best practice implementation supported via the Steering Group on Promotion and Prevention (SGPP)\(^4\) and the Commission’s health programmes. The SGPP has been focusing on actions to lower the risk of getting diabetes, also in the context of the pandemic.

\(^4\) [https://ec.europa.eu/health/non-communicable-diseases/steering-group_en](https://ec.europa.eu/health/non-communicable-diseases/steering-group_en)