

**Question for written answer E-002720/2022
to the Commission**
Rule 138
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Subject: Acute hepatitis of unknown aetiology

According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), as of 8 July 2022, 35 countries have already reported 1010 probable cases of severe acute hepatitis of unknown aetiology in children. These conditions meet the so-called case definition according to WHO terminology, with 22 deaths reported so far.

In the European area, as of 30 June 2022, the ECDC reports that a total of 473 cases of acute hepatitis of unknown aetiology have already been reported in 21 countries.

The current leading hypothesis is that a co-factor affecting young children with adenovirus infection, which would normally be mild, is causing a more severe infection or immune-mediated liver damage.

1. To what extent is the Commission monitoring the development of cases of acute hepatitis of unknown origin, and is it considering an extended pathway of possible action in the event that human-to-human transmission is found to be possible?
2. To what extent can the launch of a WHO global online survey to estimate the prevalence of severe acute hepatitis of unknown aetiology in 2022 add value to achieving and meeting the global target for hepatitis C elimination in the EU/EEA?