

**Question for written answer E-000776/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Ana Miranda (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Neglect and discrimination of sarcoma patients in Galicia in terms of treatment and access to medicines

The Galician Sarcoma Association (ASARGA) has complained that there are only seven referral centres for sarcoma treatment in Spain – three in Catalonia, two in Madrid, one in Valencia and one in Andalusia – but none in Galicia or in the whole north-east of the country. In Galicia, there is also no mandatory automatic referral procedure for patients with a rare type of cancer that calls for a high degree of specialisation. For this reason, many people are treated in non-specialist hospitals and are not aware of their rights relating to equal access to treatment, resulting in a clear case of discrimination in terms of receiving suitable treatment for serious illness.

What is more, in 2023, the Spanish Interministerial Commission on Medicine Prices chose not to approve the medicines Vitrakvi and Rozlytrek, which have been approved by the European Medicines Agency and which are funded in Germany and Italy.

In the light of the above:

1. Is the Commission aware of this discrimination which sarcoma patients face?
2. Will the Commission recommend that the Galician and Spanish Governments address this serious case of negligence and discrimination of sarcoma patients arising from the lack of referral centres and suitable medicines?

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