

**Question for written answer E-002760/2023
to the Commission**
Rule 138
István Ujhelyi (S&D)

Subject: Classification of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) as notifiable disease

RSV is a common, contagious respiratory virus that leads to over 270 000 hospitalisations and approximately 20 000 in-hospital deaths each year in adults over 60 in Europe¹. It is also a leading cause of acute lower respiratory tract infections in infants. The World Health Organization established RSV case definitions in 2018 and many EU countries have respiratory sentinel surveillance in place. However, RSV is still not a mandatory reportable disease at EU level. The lack of a common uniform surveillance case definition for RSV prevents better understanding of its prevalence and limits the interpretation of data by the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC). Discussions by the ECDC on the revision of the case definitions of EU communicable diseases under epidemiological surveillance were reportedly ongoing in December 2022, during which the inclusion of RSV was being considered.

1. Does the Commission intend to add RSV to the list of notifiable diseases?
2. Following an intense RSV season last year, does the Commission envision any other measures to help contain the circulation of RSV?

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¹ 'Respiratory syncytial virus disease burden in adults aged 60 years and older in high-income countries: A systematic literature review and meta-analysis', Savic, M., 2022, *Influenza and Other Respiratory Viruses – Wiley Online Library* (<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/irv.13031>).