

**Question for written answer E-000822/2024  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Angelo Ciocca (ID)**

**Subject:** Draft EU law on recognising fibromyalgia as a debilitating disease

Fibromyalgia is a systemic disease that causes widespread pain, fatigue, disrupted sleep, and tenderness in the muscles and joints. It is a long-term illness that affects people of all ages and considerably impacts their quality of life. As a matter of fact, the severe and persistent pain caused by the syndrome is so debilitating that, in many cases, those suffering lose their jobs.

The statistics shows that an estimated 19% of Europeans (virtually 1 in every 5 adults or more than 14 million people) are affected.

Although the World Health Organization recognised the disease back in 1992 and Article 168 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union affirms that 'a high level of human health protection shall be ensured in [...] all Union policies and activities', fibromyalgia is still not listed in the EU's official diseases registry or recognised by the national health services in many Member States.

Given that there is no definitive cure for fibromyalgia, can the Commission say what steps it will take to get the national health services in the Member States to recognise this illness as a long-term debilitating disease conferring the right to a fee waiver?

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