

ORAL QUESTION H-0389/07  
for Question Time at the part-session in June 2007  
pursuant to Rule 109 of the Rules of Procedure  
by Irena Belohorská  
to the Commission

Subject: Coloured contact lenses in the Medical Devices Directive

Some medical products present significant potential health and safety risks to consumers in Europe but do not fall under the newly revised Medical Devices Directive. Because products such as breast implants or non-corrective contact lenses (coloured lenses) are not always considered as medical devices, they are not adequately regulated. For example, in many EU Member States, coloured lenses can be currently bought in supermarkets without any prescription and without any advice how to use them. In addition, there are no binding manufacturing standards for coloured contact lenses. Poor quality products or wrong use of this kind of contact lenses can cause damage to the eye.

Due to the lack of a legal framework with a high degree of health protection, European citizens are exposed to unnecessary health risks.

What is the Commission's position on the regulation of these products to protect the health and safety of European citizens

Tabled: 15.05.2007  
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