

WRITTEN QUESTION P-3380/02  
by Rosemarie Müller (PSE)  
to the Commission

Subject: Silver fibre high-tech clothing for neurodermatitis sufferers

I understand from various scientific reports that high-tech clothing with medical uses has been developed over the past few years and is now obtainable on the market. One of the most promising developments is silver fibre clothing which can give significant relief to neurodermatitis sufferers and visibly improve their skin condition.

One of the disadvantages of this approach to treatment, however, is that therapeutic clothing of this kind is rather expensive, but the reports suggest that if the cost of such clothing were eligible for reimbursement from sickness insurance schemes it could even be to the latter's financial advantage as it would result in considerable savings in costly ointments and medicines for neurodermatitis sufferers. In the light of this,

- Is the Commission aware of this new method of treatment?
- Is it taking specific account of this method in the development of health policy?