

Question for written answer E-004611/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
Aldo Patriciello (PfE)

Subject: The diagnosis and treatment of Lyme disease

Lyme disease – an illness caused by a bacterium called *Borrelia burgdorferi* and spread by ticks – is constantly gaining ground in Europe. Though Lyme disease is recognised as a rare illness, many Member States are still beset by critical diagnostic and therapeutic shortcomings, major regional disparities and the absence of specialised centres of expertise.

This state of affairs could result in EU citizens being subject to substantive discrimination.

In some European countries, including Italy, patients' associations are also complaining about the lack of recognition for chronic forms of Lyme disease and inadequately trained medical staff.

In the light of the above:

1. Will the Commission take concrete steps to support Member States in improving their diagnostic and therapeutic capabilities as regards Lyme disease?
2. Will the Commission promote a European research, clinical coordination and funding programme that can ensure equal treatment and protection for all European patients affected by Lyme disease?

Submitted: 19.11.2025