

**Question for written answer E-004827/2025
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Gerald Hauser (PfE)

Subject: Childhood vaccines and possible link to autism

On 19 November 2025, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the supreme health authority of the US, put out a new statement. In it, the CDC stated that although previously it has been categorically claimed that vaccines do not cause autism, this has not been scientifically proven, as existing studies cannot completely rule out a possible link between infant vaccines and autism. In the past, however, the CDC, other health authorities, specialists and ‘fact checkers’ had pushed the opposite stance to prevent vaccine hesitancy. Studies pointing to such a link have been disregarded by the health authorities for years. The US Department of Health and Human Services has now launched a comprehensive assessment of the causes of autism, including potential biological mechanisms and causal links.

1. Do the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) and the Commission intend to reach out to the CDC and the US Government to jointly investigate possible causal links?
2. Why were studies that pointed to a link between childhood vaccines and autism disregarded for so long?
3. In future, given the current state of medical research, will doctors be breaching their legal duty of disclosure by not informing parents of a possible risk of autism associated with vaccines?

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