

**Question for written answer E-000819/2026/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 144
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Subject: Sustaining Horizon Europe Support for ME/CFS Research

The Commission is to be commended for funding the first research project on ME/CFS through the Horizon Europe call ‘Tackling high burden for patients and under-researched medical conditions’ (HORIZON-HLTH-2025-01-DISEASE-07).

Funding for research projects like these is of great importance to the more than 2 million patients with myalgic encephalomyelitis/chronic fatigue syndrome (ME/CFS) and related conditions such as long covid. There is an urgent need to continue this line of research and make scientific breakthroughs possible for those stricken with these debilitating illnesses, suffering from such a severe symptom burden accompanied by a heavy social stigma.

1. Will the Commission renew suitable calls, such as the previous calls on high-burden, under-researched conditions, that allow ME/CFS researchers to apply for funds from Horizon Europe to ensure that ME/CFS research will continue to be funded?
2. The call HORIZON-HLTH-2025-01-DISEASE-07 had a success rate of only 6 %, and even proposals scoring 14.5 out of 15 points, well above the funding threshold of 12, were not funded. Given that this indicates a shortage of resources rather than a lack of quality, what steps will the Commission take to provide sufficient funds for high-quality ME/CFS research proposals?

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