

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002078/25
to the Commission
Gerald Hauser (P/E)
(22 May 2025)**

Subject: Possible link between COVID-19 mRNA vaccines and aggressive cancers ('turbo cancer') in the context of Europe's Beating Cancer Plan

Although 'turbo cancer' is not a medically or scientifically defined term, it is currently being used by doctors to describe the distinctive signs of certain cancer trajectories. Renowned oncologists at home and abroad have recently alerted us to a significant uptick in extremely aggressive, rapidly progressing cancers, particularly in people who have received COVID-19 mRNA vaccines. ⁽¹⁾ Among other things, they point to the presence of SV40 sequences in certain vaccines — a potentially oncogenic virus fragment. ⁽²⁾

1. What scientific evidence does the Commission currently have of a possible link between COVID-19 mRNA vaccines and the increased incidence of particularly aggressive forms of cancer ('turbo cancer')?
2. Has the Commission — as part of Europe's Beating Cancer Plan for instance — commissioned any independent studies on these indications or is it planning any such initiatives?
3. Is the potential presence of SV40 fragments in vaccines currently being investigated or monitored by the Commission, its institutions, bodies, offices or agencies?

Submitted: 22.5.2025

**Answer given by Mr Várhelyi on behalf of the European Commission
(24 July 2025)**

There is no scientific evidence of any increase of cancer occurrence following COVID-19 vaccination. Increased incidences of cancer have been linked primarily to lifestyle factors.

At the time that the Europe's Beating Cancer Plan was launched in early February 2021 ⁽¹⁾, the first COVID-19 mRNA vaccine had just received a conditional marketing authorisation.

Therefore, no studies on a link between COVID-19 mRNA vaccines and cancers are included in the Cancer Plan. A review based on an extensive stakeholder consultation in 2025 confirms the validity of the objectives and priorities of the plan ⁽²⁾.

Simian virus 40 (SV40) is a naturally occurring virus. A non-infectious fragment of SV40 is present in the deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) plasmid starting material of Comirnaty.

The virus itself is not used in the manufacturing process of the vaccine. During the manufacturing process, this sequence and other plasmid DNA sequences are broken down and removed. Fragments of the SV40 sequence may only be present as residual impurities at very low levels that are routinely controlled. There is no scientific evidence that any of these SV40 fragments can act as insertional mutagens.

The European Medicines Agency (EMA) continuously monitors and supervises the safety of medicines and vaccines that have been authorised in the EU ⁽³⁾.

The EMA coordinates the EU pharmacovigilance system and operates services and processes to support pharmacovigilance in the EU ⁽⁴⁾.

¹ <https://www.berliner-zeitung.de/open-source/corona-impfstoffe-pathologin-warnt-diese-mrna-technik-ist-nicht-ausreichend-getestet-li.2259438>

² https://www.researchgate.net/publication/386414408_BioNTech_RNA-Based_COVID-19_Injections_Contain_Large_Amounts_Of_Residual_DNA_Including_An_SV40_PromoterEnhancer_Sequence

⁽¹⁾ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council, Europe's Beating Cancer Plan COM/2021/44 final.

⁽²⁾ https://health.ec.europa.eu/publications/review-europes-beating-cancer-plan_en.

⁽³⁾ <https://vaccination-info.europa.eu/en/reporting-side-effects>.

⁽⁴⁾ <https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/human-regulatory-overview/pharmacovigilance-overview>.