

EN

E-002661/2025

Answer given by Mr Várhelyi
on behalf of the European Commission
(11.9.2025)

Under Article 168(7) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU, Member States are responsible for the organisation and delivery of health services and medical care, including treatment. The Commission supports Member States in reducing the burden of non-communicable diseases, including cardiovascular diseases, under the 'Healthier Together' initiative¹. More than EUR 160 million from the EU4Health programme² has been allocated for effective and impactful actions on cardiovascular diseases, including their early detection and timely diagnosis. The upcoming EU cardiovascular health plan is expected to build on these actions to support the integration of innovative and personalised tools to detect people at risk as early as possible, and improve the management of cardiovascular diseases, such as structural heart disease.

The gender dimension is an integral part of EU health policies and actions, in line with the Commission's gender equality strategy³. The EU has already invested over EUR 2 billion in research and innovation on women's health, including to improve early diagnosis and develop personalised treatments for women suffering from cardiovascular health issues (among other research areas). Research in this field will continue to be supported under the Horizon Europe programme⁴.

In the development of the EU cardiovascular health plan, the Commission will identify funding opportunities to support the plan's flagship initiatives within the remaining budgetary resources for 2026-2027 under the current Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF)⁵ and explore possibilities for further actions under the next MFF⁶.

¹ https://health.ec.europa.eu/non-communicable-diseases/healthier-together-eu-non-communicable-diseases-initiative_en.

² https://health.ec.europa.eu/funding/eu4health-programme-2021-2027-vision-healthier-european-union_en.

³ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52020DC0152&from=EN>.

⁴ https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe_en.

⁵ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=LEGISSUM:4499418>.

⁶ https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/eu-budget/long-term-eu-budget/eu-budget-2028-2034_en.