

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-003906/25
to the Commission
Leire Pajín (S&D), Sandra Gómez López (S&D)
(6 October 2025)**

Subject: Including acquired brain injuries in the International Classification of Diseases

The International Classification of Diseases (ICD) is the official list of diseases published by the World Health Organisation (WHO) that provides critical knowledge on the extent, causes and consequences of human disease and death across the world via data that is reported and coded.

Strokes and other brain diseases are currently recognised in the ICD and have their own codes. However, acquired brain injuries (ABI) do not have a specific code in the ICD, creating issues with their recognition, specialised and ongoing care, epidemiological monitoring and access to welfare and economic benefits.

Can the Commission therefore clarify:

1. Whether it will push for the creation of a specific ABI code in coordination with the WHO?
2. How it intends to ensure that Member States can properly record and address ABI cases in their health and social protection systems?

Submitted: 6.10.2025

**Answer given by Mr Várhelyi on behalf of the European Commission
(16 December 2025)**

1. The World Health Organisation (WHO) is responsible for the International Classification of Diseases (ICD-11). The Commission does not have a role in this classification process.

2. In accordance with Article 168(7) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) ⁽¹⁾, the responsibility for the organisation and delivery of health services and medical care lies with the Member States. The EU's role is to complement national policies by providing support in helping reaching policy objectives.

The Commission supports Member States and stakeholders in promoting health and preventing non-communicable diseases under the 'Healthier Together' initiative ⁽²⁾. With more than EUR 280 million from the EU4Health programme ⁽³⁾, the initiative is being implemented through collaborative work between Member States, stakeholder-led projects and contribution agreements with international partners on non-communicable diseases, including on neurological diseases ⁽⁴⁾.

1 https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/tfeu/2008/art_168/oj/eng.

2 Healthier together — EU non-communicable diseases initiative https://health.ec.europa.eu/non-communicable-diseases/healthier-together-eu-non-communicable-diseases-initiative_en.

3 EU4Health programme 2021-2027 https://health.ec.europa.eu/funding/eu4health-programme-2021-2027-vision-healthier-european-union_en.

4 <https://jadementia.eu/index.php>.