

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-004732/25
to the Commission
Elena Nevado del Campo (PPE)
(28 November 2025)**

Subject: Early diagnosis and treatment of uterine fibroids in Europe

Although uterine fibroids are one of the most common conditions in women of reproductive age, very little is known about them. According to European data, between 9% and 32.5% of those affected take five years or more to seek medical advice on the symptoms because they get used to them, because they find it difficult to access healthcare, or because they are afraid of invasive procedures. While surgery is indeed one of the treatments available, there are also non-invasive, drug-based options.

A study by Downes et al. (2010) carried out in France, Germany, Italy, Spain and the UK found that 32.7% of the women surveyed said that the symptoms had caused them to miss work. The symptoms were also responsible for a 36.1% reduction in overall labour productivity and a 37.7% reduction in activity in general.

1. Has the Commission assessed the economic, employment, social and women's health impact of fibroids?
2. What action does the Commission intend to take to improve the diagnosis and treatment of fibroids?

Submitted: 28.11.2025

**Answer given by Mr Várhelyi on behalf of the European Commission
(5 February 2026)**

Member States are responsible for the organisation and delivery of health services and medical care ⁽¹⁾. The Commission aims to address non-communicable diseases (NCDs) in a comprehensive and prevention-oriented approach through the Healthier Together initiative ⁽²⁾, the strategic framework to address NCDs in the EU.

The Commission supports collaboration on prevention and management of NCDs between Member States and stakeholders through financial support from the EU4Health programme ⁽³⁾. The Commission also supports best practice exchange among Member States via the EU Best Practices Portal ⁽⁴⁾.

The proposal for a European Competitiveness Fund includes a special emphasis on non-communicable diseases. In March 2025, the Commission adopted its Roadmap for Women's Rights ⁽⁵⁾, which includes the highest standards of health.

Additionally, Horizon Europe ⁽⁶⁾ is one of the key instruments that supports the area of medical research and innovation. Projects funded under Horizon Europe will provide new evidence, methodologies and tools for understanding the transition from health to disease, and develop new, personalised approaches on NCDs, including uterine fibroids.

Over EUR 1.3 billion have been invested in more than 700 research and innovation projects related to women's health through Horizon 2020 ⁽⁷⁾ and Horizon Europe.

More information about currently open and upcoming funding opportunities for further research on women's health, including uterine fibroids, can be found through the EU Funding and Tenders Portal ⁽⁸⁾.

⁽¹⁾ <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:12012E/TXT&from=EN>.

⁽²⁾ https://health.ec.europa.eu/non-communicable-diseases/healthier-together-eu-non-communicable-diseases-initiative_en.

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

⁽⁴⁾ <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/dyna/bp-portal/>.

⁽⁵⁾ https://commission.europa.eu/document/0c3fe55d-9e4f-4377-9d14-93d03398b434_en.

⁽⁶⁾ https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe_en.

⁽⁷⁾ https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-2020_en.

⁽⁸⁾ <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/home>.