

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2014 - 2015, 2/3 June 2014

Ref No: SQ14-000520

OUTCOME: 1 – Population Health

Topic: Animal Testing

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Rhiannon, Lee

Question:

Other nations are already investing in the development of alternatives to animal experiments, such as the Centre for 3Rs in the UK, the European Union Reference Laboratory for Alternatives to Animal Testing and The Interagency Coordinating Committee on the Validation of Alternative Methods in the United States.

a)What commitment does Australia have to fund alternatives to animal research?

Answer:

Researchers wishing to investigate alternatives to the use of animals for scientific purposes can apply to the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) for funding. These applications are subject to normal assessment and peer review processes.

NHMRC is not able to comment on any funding commitments that other organisations or Australian Government agencies may have for the development of alternatives to the use of animals for scientific purposes.