

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

**Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016, 1 - 2 June 2015**

**Ref No:** SQ15-000597

**OUTCOME:** 7 - Health Infrastructure, Regulation, Safety and Quality

**Topic:** Assessment of Chemicals in Cosmetics

**Type of Question:** Hansard Page 29, 2 June 2015

**Senator:** Ruston, Anne

**Question:**

If we did all of those things, how many ingredients would have been imported into Australia in the last 12 months that would have required testing on animals for the purpose of importation as per the guidelines that you operate under?

**Answer:**

Under the legislation and guidelines under which the National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme (NICNAS) operates, eight new industrial chemicals that were assessed for use in cosmetics in 2013-14 (2014-15 data are not yet available) required full assessment (i.e. were assessed under the Standard notification category, which has statutory data requirements that include animal tests). Applicants are currently able to provide alternative test data to fulfil these statutory requirements, such as *in vitro* (non-animal) data or previously generated data on similar chemicals.

For six of these eight assessments, data from animal tests conducted on the notified chemical were submitted, while only historical animal test data conducted on similar chemicals were utilised for the remaining two assessments.