

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

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

**Ref No:** SQ15-000603

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

**Topic:** Assessment of Chemicals in Cosmetics

**Type of Question:** Hansard Page 31, 2 June 2015

**Senator:** Ruston, Anne

**Question:**

When are [alternatives to animal testing] scientific tests likely to come in?

**Answer:**

A large number of research programmes around the world are currently developing alternatives to animal testing. It is not possible to confidently forecast when the full suite of alternative toxicological tests (not involving the use of animals) will be developed to the standard expected for regulatory decision-making.

NICNAS is closely monitoring the progress of the development of alternative test methods and is accepting them for use in safety assessments as they become available and validated.