

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2017–2018, 29 & 30 May 2017

Ref No: SQ17-000741

OUTCOME: 2 – Health Access and Support Services

Topic: Nanomaterials in food

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Janet Rice

Question:

ANSES did not try and analyse why this previously unidentified effect occurred, but would FSANZ agree that this could be associated with the titanium dioxide having a larger nano-scale particle component? (a) If no, on what basis do you discount this possibility?

Answer:

No.

- (a) The 2017 French study was a preliminary study with limitations as acknowledged by ANSES. The experiment to demonstrate that the nanoparticle fraction of E171 is responsible for the observed preneoplastic lesion formation was not conducted. Therefore, no conclusion can be made that the observed effects are associated with a larger nano-scale particle component.