

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016, 21 October 2015

Ref No: SQ15-000703

OUTCOME: 7 – Health Infrastructure, Regulation, Safety and Quality

Topic: Animal Testing of Cosmetic Ingredients

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Rhiannon, Lee

Question:

How many new cosmetics ingredients notified to the NICNAS have been required to have had animal testing or have used animal-tested results in their application for approval in Australia in the past 24 months?

Answer:

The National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme (NICNAS) does not require any cosmetic product to be tested on animals. Only the Standard notification category for industrial chemicals has statutory data requirements that have historically relied on animal testing. In the 24 months from July 2013 to June 2015, there were 10 certificates issued in this category for new industrial chemicals used solely as cosmetic ingredients - six of these used results from animal testing of the notified chemical for at least one toxicological data requirement, while four used no animal testing data on the notified chemical (i.e. these submissions used only non-animal tests on the notified chemical and/or read-across from historical animal test data submitted on chemicals that are structurally similar, and are predicted to have the same or similar toxicity profile (analogue chemicals)).