

California law first in North America to require non-animal safety substantiation of cosmetic ingredients

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Background

Growing public pressure on cosmetics companies is pushing the industry away from animal tests and towards greater uptake of *in vitro* and *in silico* methods. Although the US Food and Drug Administration does not require specific tests for cosmetics, many multi-use ingredients may be tested *in vivo* to meet regulatory requirements in other sectors or for non-required product stewardship reasons. Other products are subject to regulatory requirements in other countries. In 2018, California joined the European Union and other regions in severely restricting the sale of cosmetics products or ingredients that have been tested in animals. Starting January 1, 2020, no cosmetic may be sold within the state if it, or its ingredients, was tested on animals after January 1, 2020. Training and outreach efforts must be conducted to ensure ingredients suppliers are ready to comply with the law.

Methods Compliant Under CA Law

- Skin Irritation, Eye irritation: 3D human tissue constructs
- Sensitization: Many *in silico* and *in vitro* methods available
- Read Across: OECD QSAR Toolbox, EPA CompTox Dashboard
- Existing information: Integrated Chemical Environment
- Systemic Toxicity: ADME predictors and *in vitro* methods, ToxCast, Read-across

Additional Resources and References:

- www.pcrm.org/tsca
- www.ascctox.org

Legislative Details

Applies to:

- Cosmetic manufacturers, third party suppliers, contractors
- Final products and ingredients (including multi-use/noncosmetic ingredients)

Exemptions in the bill allow for testing:

- conducted in response to a requirement by a foreign regulatory authority
- conducted for noncosmetic purposes in response to a requirement of a federal, state, or foreign regulatory authority
- required by a federal or state regulatory authority in specific cases.

Companies selling cosmetics or ingredients tested on animals under one of the exemptions must still substantiate the safety of the ingredient or product using nonanimal methods, even if they are also conducting an *in vivo* study for the same endpoint to support the ingredient in another sector.

