

Dermatotoxicological and other Safety Testing Methods without Animals -
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Session 1: Dermatotoxicological risk assessment without animal testing

Toxicological Safety Assessment of Cosmetics without Animal Testing

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The bans of the European Cosmetics Directive constitute a big, currently unsolvable challenge for the cosmetic industry. Despite very substantial, long standing efforts science has not yet reached a state that allows comprehensive safety assessment without reliance on animal toxicity data. The cosmetic industry will not compromise on safety. Hence, there will be a loss of existing ingredients and a sharply reduced ability for the industry to innovate with new ingredients, if safety questions cannot be answered based on existing data. The remarkable contributions of the industry to the evolution on non-animal based test methods and safety assessment strategies have substantially addressed the acute toxicity endpoints. Accepted test systems are already or will be in place in the near future. Of the repeated-dose endpoints the program on alternative approaches to skin sensitization shows promising progress and is targeted to deliver later this decade. A substantial problem lies in the field of systemic toxicity which currently constitutes the main roadblock to safety assessment without animal data. Here, the cosmetic industry is heavily engaged in the SEURAT-1 program, a joint initiative with the European Commission that targets to path the way towards novel toxicology approaches.

