



HUMANE SOCIETY
INTERNATIONAL



让美丽远离动物残忍 Be Cruelty-Free

3 Fast Facts on China & Cosmetics Animal Testing

Thanks in large part to an intensive two year campaign by the *Be Cruelty-Free China* coalition, from 30 June 2014 China-based companies manufacturing ordinary cosmetics for sale inside China, will no longer be legally required to conduct animal testing, or provide samples of new products to the government for animal testing. They now have the option to provide a product risk assessment using existing ingredient safety data, including when necessary the results of validated and internationally recognized non-animal test methods.

1 Does this apply to all cosmetics?

No. It does not apply to cosmetics manufactured outside of mainland China for sale inside China. Nor does it apply to “special-use cosmetics” such as hair dyes, antiperspirants, sunscreens or skin-whitening products. It also only applies to finished product testing (of which there is a lot in China).

2 Does this mean cruelty-free companies can now sell in China?

No. Firstly, the new change only applies to companies manufacturing cosmetics inside China for sale in China. Foreign importing cruelty-free companies would still be subject to animal test requirements.

Secondly, even if they manufacture inside China, it doesn't apply to ingredients. China's official Inventory of Existing Cosmetics Ingredients in China (IECIC).

Thirdly, the Chinese government still carries out post-market animal testing & will likely increase such testing. Cosmetics are removed from shop shelves at random for “confirmatory” animal testing.

HSI believes that until this is no longer the case, no cosmetics company can sell its products in China and credibly purport to be cruelty-free.

3 If cosmetics animal testing hasn't ended in China, why is this rule change important?

It's very important, because it demonstrates that the Chinese government is receptive to moving away from animal testing. Change in China will inevitably be incremental, rather than sweeping changes. But this is the very first time in more than 20 years that China has made a major change to its cosmetics regulation. Seen within the global context of a general shift away from animal testing, it is important that we acknowledge this as a first step in a multi-step journey towards ending cosmetics cruelty in China.

TAKE THE PLEDGE

Sign our Be Cruelty-Free pledge today and say no to cosmetics animal testing in your country and worldwide.

hsi.org/bcfpledge