

# Regulation of hygiene, personal care and specialty products



hygiene, personal care & specialty products industry

Hygiene, personal care and specialty chemical products are regulated to protect human health, safety and the environment.

Australia has a rigorous and independent regulatory system at the federal, state/territory and local government levels.

## Regulation for safety & confidence



### Risk assessment

Risk assessment underpins regulation in Australia.

Following risk assessment, controls are put in place to minimise any risks.

**Risk assessment**  
Likelihood of harm

**Control measures**

e.g. bans; restrictions on use; workplace controls; classification and labelling; control of emissions to air, water and land; waste disposal restrictions

### Regulators

Regulators assess risk, implement control measures and enforce compliance with these controls.

Regulation impacts every aspect of a chemical product and its ingredients. Multiple regulators are responsible for these aspects.

## Spotlight on: Ingredient and product introduction

Category	Scope	Examples	Regulatory regime*					
			TGA <sup>1</sup>	APVMA <sup>2</sup>	FSANZ <sup>3</sup>	AICIS <sup>4</sup>	ACCC <sup>5</sup>	SUSMP <sup>6</sup>
Therapeutics	Products that make a therapeutic or health benefit claim	Some mouthwashes, toothpastes, sunscreens, medicated soaps, anti-dandruff shampoos, disinfectants, sanitisers	☑				☑	☑
Agvet	Agricultural & veterinary chemical products	Dairy sanitisers for on-farm use, insect repellents for personal use		☑			☑	☑
Food & beverage	Chemicals in food & beverage products	Ingredients & additives in food for human consumption, such as processing aids, colourings, vitamins and minerals			☑		☑	
Industrial chemicals	All substances that are not defined as therapeutics, agvet or food & beverage	Ingredients in cosmetics & personal care and cleaning & hygiene products; commodity & industrial-use chemicals, inks, adhesives, paints, glues, solvents, candles etc.				☑	☑	☑

## Spotlight on: Personal care, cosmetic & household products



### INGREDIENTS

- Must comply with AICIS introduction rules<sup>4</sup>
- Some are prohibited/have limits in specific products<sup>1,6</sup>



### PRODUCTS

- Certain products are individually assessed<sup>1,2</sup>
- Product safety recalls, if needed<sup>1,2,5</sup>
- Australian/International standards apply to some categories, e.g. sunscreens, aerosol containers, child-resistant packaging<sup>7</sup>



### INFORMATION

- Cosmetic ingredient labelling<sup>5</sup>
- Safety warnings, if needed<sup>6</sup>

## Can we trust the system?

Australia, like other advanced nations, has a robust regulatory system designed to deliver safety for consumers and the environment.

Decisions about risk and safety can be safely entrusted to regulatory scientists and expert scientific bodies.

### Regulatory scientists & expert scientific bodies

Scientific knowledge  
Training  
Independence

Informed risk assessments  
Appropriate controls  
Consumer confidence

## Can the system be improved?

Please refer to our 'Complexity and challenges' infographic

\*Regulatory/standards system:

<sup>1</sup> TGA: Therapeutic Goods Administration

<sup>2</sup> APVMA: Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority

<sup>3</sup> FSANZ: Food Standards Australia New Zealand

<sup>4</sup> AICIS: Australian Industrial Chemicals Introduction Scheme

<sup>5</sup> ACCC: Australian Competition and Consumer Commission

<sup>6</sup> Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Medicines and Poisons

<sup>7</sup> Standards Australia and the International Standards Organisation (via various regulatory systems)