

דרך קצרה

Brief summaries of cRc Kashrus Policies

DENTAL APPLIANCES

It is generally assumed that dental work – whether the type that remain in the mouth or are removable – does not absorb *ta'am* from food which the person eats. Several reasons are given for this, and the simplest is that it is rare for someone to eat food which is *yad soledes bo* and able impart flavor. Even so, some people choose to be *machmir* for *Pesach* and assume that there might be some *ta'am* absorbed into their dental appliances. Accordingly, they will either not eat hot food for 24 hours before *Pesach*, and/or will be extra careful to not eat food that is hotter than *yad soledes bo* on *Pesach*.

But most people follow the assumption noted above that there is no *ta'am* absorbed into their dental work, and all that is required is to remove residue of *chametz* from them before *Pesach*. Dr. Tzvi Rubin, an orthodontist, suggested the following ways to prepare different dental appliances for *Pesach*:

- Fillings, crowns, bite plates, dentures, and retainers can be cleaned with a good brushing.
- Bridgework, overdentures, and implants often have spaces between the dental work and the gums (or other teeth). They should be brushed thoroughly, and then the spaces should be cleaned with a Proxa brush (a small,

thin brush, designed especially for these types of purposes).

- Braces can basically be cleaned through a standard brushing, but an electric toothbrush, Water Pik, or Proxa brush will do a much better job.

All this cleaning must happen after the person eats *chametz* for the last time before *Pesach*. That presents a special complication when *Erev Pesach* is on *Shabbos*, where many people will be eating *chametz challah* on *Erev Pesach*, but it will be halachically difficult or impossible to do the cleanings outlined above. People in this situation should consider doing the thorough cleaning before *Shabbos*, and then eating egg matzah (and other non-*chametz* foods) for the entire *Shabbos*.

cRc POLICIES

124. Must one be concerned that their dental appliances absorbed *ta'am* of *chametz* before *Pesach*?

No. All that is required is that they be thoroughly cleaned after the last time *chametz* is consumed before *Pesach*.

For bite plates and similar items that can be removed from the mouth, some have the commendable practice to pour hot water over them after they are thoroughly cleaned.

מראה מקומות

שולחן ערוך סימן תנ"א סעיף י"ח



Kosher Certification