



MEDICINE & COSMETICS

Chicago Rabbinical Council

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MEDICINES, COSMETICS & TOILETRIES FOR PESACH

NOTE: THIS LETTER REFERS TO PESACH-SPECIFIC CONCERNS.
PLEASE CONSULT YOUR RABBI REGARDING THE USE OF MEDICINES, COSMETICS,
AND TOILETRIES ON *SHABBOS* AND *YOM TOV*.

MEDICINES

- All pill or non-chewable tablet medication – with or without *chametz* – that one swallows is permitted. [Candy-coated pills are an exception to this rule, but they are quite uncommon.] Vitamins and food supplements do not necessarily fall into this category, and each person should consult with their Rabbi.
- Liquid and chewable medications that may contain *chametz* should only be used under the direction of a doctor and Rabbi, who will judge the severity of the illness, the likelihood that the medicine contains *chametz*, and the possibility of substituting a swallowable pill.

Important: Do not discontinue use of liquid, chewable or any other medicine without consulting with your doctor and Rabbi.

- Liquid and chewable medications that contain *kitnios* may be consumed by someone who is ill. An otherwise healthy person, who would like to consume a liquid or chewable medicine to relieve a minor discomfort, should only do so if the product is known to be free of *kitnios*.

COSMETICS & TOILETRIES

- All varieties of blush, body soap, conditioners, creams, eye shadow, eyeliner, foundations, ink, lotions, mascara, nail polish, ointments, paint, shampoo, and stick deodorant are permitted for use on *Pesach* – regardless of the ingredients contained within them.
- Many varieties of cologne, liquid deodorants, hairspray, mousse, perfume, shaving lotion, sunscreen, and wipes contain denatured alcohol, and therefore should only be used on *Pesach* if they do not contain alcohol or the alcohol is known to be free of *chametz*. Such products manufactured in the United States may be used, regardless of whether the ingredient list includes denatured alcohol.
- Lipstick, mouthwash, and toothpaste which contain *chametz* should not be used.

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