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MEDICINES, COSMETICS & TOILETRIES FOR PESACH

MEDICINES

FOR LAWS OF TAKING MEDICINE ON *SHABBOS* AND *YOM TOV*,
PLEASE CONSULT YOUR RABBI

- All pill medication – with or without *chametz* – that one swallows is permitted. 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, creams, eye shadow, eyeliner, face powder, foot powder, 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 liquid deodorants, hairsprays, perfumes, colognes, and shaving lotions contain denatured alcohol, and therefore should not be used on *Pesach* unless they are listed as *chametz*-free on a reliable list of *Pesach* products.
- Lipstick, mouthwash and toothpaste which contain *chametz* should not be used.

Rabbi Gedalia Dov Schwartz
Av Beis Din, Chicago Rabbinical Council

Rabbi Shmuel Fuerst
Dayan, Agudath Israel of Illinois

Rabbi Chaim T. Goldzweig
Rav, Congregation Tifereth Moshe

Rabbi Dovid Zucker
Rosh Kollel, Chicago Community Kollel

Medicines and Cosmetics

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Our general guidelines on medicines, cosmetics, and toiletries can be found on page 3 of this guide and are summarized here as follows:

Medicines

- **Important: Before discontinuing liquid or chewable medicine, you must consult with your Rabbi and doctor.**
- **All prescription medications for serious illness, ordered by your doctor, should be taken on Passover without regard for the components of the medication.**
- **Please consult with your physician and Orthodox rabbi before eliminating or changing any prescription medication since questions of age, physical health, and special diet are involved in the final decision.**

For laws of taking medicine on *Shabbos* and *Yom Tov*, please consult your rabbi.

- All pill medication – with or without *chametz* – that one swallows is permitted. 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 *kitniyot* 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 *kitniyot*.

**In keeping with the above statement,
please note the following information pertaining to vitamins:**

Vitamins are normally not considered pill medication, but rather a food or food supplement. **As such, the p'sak, ruling, from Rav Schwartz, shlit" a, is that vitamins should have hashgacha for Passover.**

Pre-natal vitamins: It is best to avoid taking pre-natal vitamins

that do not have Kosher for Passover certification. If the doctor insists that one should not stop taking pre-natal vitamins during this time, it is important to verify that there is no real chametz in them. Please check our website at www.crcweb.org for more detailed information.

In other cases when your doctor prescribes a specific vitamin that must be taken on Passover, (even if it does not have Passover supervision) it may fall into the category of a pill medication.

Each situation must be individually reviewed with your doctor and your Orthodox rabbi.

Cosmetics and Toiletries

- All varieties of blush, body soap, creams, eye shadow, eyeliner, face powder, foot powder, 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 liquid deodorants, hairsprays, perfumes, colognes, and shaving lotions contain denatured alcohol, and therefore should not be used on *Pesach* unless they are listed as *chametz*-free on a reliable list of *Pesach* products.
- Lipstick, mouthwash, and toothpaste which contain *chametz* should not be used.

To reiterate, and in keeping with the above statement, please note the following information pertaining to specific types of cosmetics and toiletries:

Deodorant: ALL sticks and gels are acceptable; for liquid (spray) deodorants, <i>Chametz</i> -free only should be used.	should be used.	free only should be used.
Lip Products: <i>Chametz</i> -free only	Mouthwash: The cRc recommends that a mouthwash with a reliable Passover hashgacha be used.	Toothpaste: The cRc recommends that toothpaste with a reliable Passover hashgacha be used.
	Perfumes & Colognes: <i>Chametz</i> -	

As a reminder, our general guidelines on medicines, cosmetics, and toiletries can be found on page 3 of this guide, and other product information can be found in the center pull-out, full-color shopping guide section.