

# Chicago Rabbinical Council

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פסח תשפ"ב / Pesach 2022

## 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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# Medicine & Cosmetics



## Medicine Guidelines

The cRc's general guidelines on medicines, cosmetics and toiletries can be found on page 3 of this guide. The following is a summary of the medicine portion of those guidelines:

All pill medication – with or without *chametz* – that one swallows is permitted. (Candy-coated pills are an exception to this rule, but they are quite uncommon.)

Rav Gedalia Dov Schwartz, zt"l, has ruled that generally vitamins do not qualify as medications and are instead treated as food supplements which require *hashgachah* for Pesach. If a doctor prescribes a specific vitamin which does not have Pesach supervision, please review your specific situation with your doctor and 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.

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

## Medicine and Toiletry Details

Items marked “Possible *Chametz*” contain edible ingredients whose *chametz*-status we were unable to determine; these items may be permitted for someone who is seriously ill, and consumers should consult with their Rabbi.



## Antibiotics

The cRc recommends all medicinal items in pill form, which includes most of the antibiotics that adults take. The same does not apply when dealing with liquid or chewable medicines, which are considered “edible”. Since there is a chance that they contain *chametz*, they should only be used if they are known to be free of any concerns.

However, antibiotics are an exception that rule. Generally, antibiotics are given to treat ailments which, if left untreated, can lead to a situation of *sakanah* (danger to life). Therefore, one may consume antibiotics regardless of the ingredients used in creating them.

For an expanded and updated list of products, search [www.ASKcRc.org](http://www.ASKcRc.org) or our smartphone apps.

## Allergy

Allegra Children's Liquid Suspension	Possible <i>Chametz</i>
Allegra Children's Orally Disintegrating Tablet	Possible <i>Chametz</i> (dairy)
Claritin Children's Chewable Grape Flavor	Possible <i>Chametz</i>
Claritin Children's Non-Drowsy Oral Solution (Grape) (Liquid)	Possible <i>Chametz</i>
Genexa Kid's Allergy (Liquid)	Recommended
Nasacort Nose Spray Allergy 24 Hour (Liquid)	Possible <i>Chametz</i>
Signature Care 24 Hour Children's Allergy Relief Grape Flavored (Liquid)	Possible <i>Chametz</i>
Zyrtec Children's Allergy Indoor & Outdoor Allergies (Liquid)	Possible <i>Chametz</i>

## Antacid / Digestion / Gas

Align Capsules	Recommended
Alka Seltzer Alka-Seltzer Xtra Strength (Effervescent Tablets)	Possible <i>Chametz</i>
Alka Seltzer Original Effervescent Tabs (Tablets)	Possible <i>Chametz</i>
Culturelle Digestive Daily Probiotic (Vegetarian Capsule)	Recommended
Culturelle Kids Chewables	Possible <i>Chametz</i>
Gas-X Extra Strength Cherry Crème (Chewable Tablet)	Possible <i>Chametz</i>
Gaviscon Extra Strength Cherry (Chewables)	Possible <i>Chametz</i>
Gaviscon Extra Strength Original (Chewable)	Possible <i>Chametz</i>
Imodium AD (Liquid)	Recommended in cases of severe diarrhea
Imodium AD For Ages 6 & Up (Liquid)	Recommended in cases of severe diarrhea
Imodium AD Multi-symptom Relief (Caplets)	Recommended

## TUMS

Why does cRc not recommend Tums for Pesach, but other Rabbis do?

The reason for the difference in policy as to whether Tums is recommended for Pesach is a Rabbinic difference of opinion as to whether one must refrain from consuming products which contain flavors of unknown kosher and Pesach status. Some Rabbis take a lenient position due to the fact that most of the flavor-contributing chemicals are not *chametz*, no single chemical's taste is perceived in the final product (i.e., *zeh v'zeh gorem*), and the flavor is used in tiny proportions. Other Rabbis disagree based on *halachic* and factual grounds which are beyond the scope of this document. The cRc follows the latter, stricter approach to this question.

The certifying Rabbi for Tums reported that he was unable to determine whether the flavorings used in Tums are acceptable for Pesach, and therefore the cRc is unable to recommend them. Others who list certain Tums products as acceptable for Pesach are aware of this but accept the lenient approach outlined above, which rules that flavors of unknown status do not compromise the Pesach status of the Tums. It is noteworthy that there is corn starch in every variety of Tums which we looked at, which means that even according to the lenient approach Tums should only be consumed by those who are either *Sephardic* or ill and permitted to eat *kitnios*.

Kaopectate Max Peppermint (Liquid)	Possible <i>Chametz</i>
Kaopectate Vanilla Regular Flavor (Liquid)	Possible <i>Chametz</i>
Pepcid Complete Berry Flavor Chewables	Possible <i>Chametz</i> (dairy)
Pepcid Complete Cool Mint Chewables	Possible <i>Chametz</i> (dairy)
Pepcid Complete Tropical Fruit Flavor (Chewable Tablet)	Possible <i>Chametz</i> (dairy)
Pepto Bismol 5 Symptom Relief Caplets	Recommended
Pepto Bismol 5 Symptom Relief Cherry (Liquid)	Possible <i>Chametz</i>
Pepto Bismol 5 Symptom Relief Chewables	Possible <i>Chametz</i>
Pepto Bismol Kids Pepto Bubble Gum Flavor (Chewable Tablets)	Possible <i>Chametz</i>
Pepto Bismol Ultra (Liquid)	Possible <i>Chametz</i>

Tums EX – Assorted Flavors (Chewable)  
.....Possible *Chametz*

Tums Kids (Cherry) (Chewable)  
.....Possible *Chametz*

Tums Regular - Assorted Flavors (Chewable)  
.....Possible *Chametz*

Tums Smoothies – Assorted Flavors (Chewable)  
.....Possible *Chametz*

Tums Ultra – Assorted Flavors (Chewable)  
.....Possible *Chametz*

**Blush** .....All are recommended

**Body Soap** .....All are recommended

### **Cologne**

Only recommended if free of (denatured) alcohol or if manufactured in the United States

### **Cough, Cold & Flu**

Alka Seltzer Plus Severe Cold & Flu Formula  
(Effervescent Tablets).....Possible *Chametz*

Delsym 12 Hour Cough (Orange Flavor) (Liquid)  
.....Possible *Chametz*

Delsym Children’s 12 Hour Cough Liquid (Grape Flavor)  
.....Possible *Chametz*

Delsym Children’s 12 Hour Cough Liquid (Orange Flavor)  
.....Possible *Chametz*

Mucinex Cough Mini-Melts for Kids Orange Creme Flavor  
(Dissolving Granules).....Possible *Chametz*

Theraflu Multi-Symptom Severe Cold (Packets)  
.....Possible *Chametz*

Thera-Flu Nighttime Severe Cold and Cough Powder  
.....Possible *Chametz*

Triaminic Children’s Nighttime Cold and Cough (Grape Flavor)  
(Liquid).....Not Recommended

Triaminic Day Time Cold and Cough Cherry Flavor (Liquid)  
.....Not Recommended

Zarbees Baby Cough Syrup + Mucus Natural Grape Flavor  
(Liquid).....Possible *Chametz*

Zicam Cold Remedy RapidMelts Tablets (Cherry Flavor)  
.....Possible *Chametz*

Zicam Rapidmelts Ultra (Orange Cream Flavor) (Tablet)  
.....Possible *Chametz*

**Creams** .....All are recommended

### **Deodorant**

Gel.....All are recommended

Liquid.....Recommended if free of (denatured) alcohol or if manufactured in the United States

Spray.....Recommended if free of (denatured) alcohol or if manufactured in the United States

**Fiber Supplements** .....see Laxatives

### **Fever Reducer / Pain Relief**

CVS Adult Pain Reliever (Acetaminophen) [NOT dye free]  
(liquid).....Possible *Chametz*

DG Health Children’s Pain and Fever Chewables Grape Flavor  
.....Possible *Chametz*

Midol Complete (Caplets)  
.....Recommended

Motrin Children’s Chewable (Grape Flavor) (Tablet)  
.....Recommended

Signature Care Children’s Ibuprofen Grape Flavor Chewable  
.....Recommended

Tylenol Children’s Dissolve Packs (Powder)  
.....Possible *Chametz*

Walgreens Adult Pain Reliever (Acetaminophen) [NOT dye free]  
(Liquid).....Possible *Chametz*

Walgreens Children’s Ibuprofen 100 Chewable Tablets  
(Orange or Grape Flavor).....Recommended

### **Fever for A Child**

Each year, the cRc researches different fever-reducers and pain relievers to see which are suitable for use for Pesach. Some of the results are ready in time for inclusion in the printed cRc Pesach Guide, and some others can only be found in the cRc app, or at [www.ASKcRc.org](http://www.ASKcRc.org).

You may notice that our recommendation for many of these items is that they are “Possible *Chametz*”, which means that they contain ingredients which are sensitive for Pesach but likely do not pose a Pesach concern. You might want to consult with your Rabbi before Pesach so that he can direct as to when it is appropriate to give “Possible *Chametz*” to a sick child (or adult).

**Gas** ..... see Antacid/Digestion/Gas

**Hairspray and Mousse**

.....Recommended if free of (denatured) alcohol or if manufactured in the United States

**Indigestion**..... see Antacid/Digestion/Gas

**Laxatives / Fiber Supplements**

Benefiber Powder  
.....*Chametz* (Not Recommended)

Benefiber Stick Packs (Unflavored) (Powder)  
.....*Chametz* (Not Recommended)

Cirulax Prunelax Maximum Relief (Coated Tablet)  
.....Recommended

Citrucel Caplets  
.....Recommended

Dulcolax Overnight Relief (Tablets)  
.....Recommended

Dulcolax Pink Overnight Relief (Tablets)  
.....Recommended

Dulcolax Suppository  
.....Recommended

Epsom Salt (pure) Generic or Branded versions (Powder)  
.....Recommended

Ex-Lax Tablets  
.....Recommended

Fibercon Caplets  
.....Recommended

Generic Mineral Oil (pure) (Liquid)  
.....Recommended

Metamucil 4-in-1 Fiber Sugar Free Orange (Powder)  
.....Possible *Chametz*

Metamucil Premium Blend Sugar-Free with Stevia Orange Flavor (Powder) .....Possible *Chametz*

Miralax Powder  
.....Recommended

Pedia-Lax Chewable (Tablets)  
.....Possible *Chametz*

Pedia-Lax Liquid Stool Softener Berry Flavor (Liquid)  
.....Possible *Chametz*

Pedia-Lax Suppository  
.....Recommended

Phillips Milk of Magnesia Caplets  
.....Recommended

Phillips Milk of Magnesia Original Liquid (Unflavored)  
.....Recommended

Polyethylene Glycol (pure) Generic or Branded versions (Powder).....Recommended

Prunelax Ciruelax Tablets  
.....Recommended

Senokot Tablets  
.....Recommended

Senokot-S Tablets  
.....Recommended

Walgreens Mineral Oil (Liquid)  
.....Recommended

**Lipstick**

If your lipstick is not listed here, you can use our search feature at [www.cRcKosher.org/lipstick](http://www.cRcKosher.org/lipstick).

**Bobbi Brown**

Crushed Lip Color  
.....Recommended

Lip Color  
.....Recommended

Luxe Matte Lip Color  
.....Recommended

Luxe Shine Intense Lipstick  
.....Recommended

**Chanel**

Rouge Allure  
.....Recommended

Rouge Allure Velvet  
.....Recommended

Rouge Allure Velvet Extrême  
.....Recommended

Rouge Coco  
.....Recommended

Rouge Coco Flash  
.....Recommended

## Clinique

Almost Lipstick  
.....Recommended

Clinique Pop Lip Colour + Primer  
.....Not Recommended

Clinique Pop Matte Lip Colour + Primer  
.....Recommended

Dramatically Different Lipstick Shaping Lip Colour  
.....Recommended

## Dior

Dior Addict Lacquer Stick  
.....Recommended

Dior Addict Stellar Halo Shine  
.....Recommended

Dior Addict Stellar Shine  
.....Recommended

Diorific - The Atelier Of Dreams Limited Edition  
.....Recommended

Rouge Dior  
.....Recommended

Rouge Dior Forever Liquid  
.....Possible *Chametz*

Rouge Dior Ultra Care Liquid  
.....Recommended

Rouge Graphist  
.....Recommended

## Estee Lauder

Pure Color Envy Hi-Lustre Light Sculpting Lipstick  
.....Not Recommended

Pure Color Envy Matte Sculpting Lipstick  
.....Not Recommended

Pure Color Envy Sculpting Lipstick  
.....Not Recommended

## L'Oreal

Colour Riche Satin Lipstick  
.....Recommended

Colour Riche Shine Lipstick  
.....Recommended

## Lancome

Color Design  
.....Recommended

L'absolu Rouge Drama Matte Lipstick  
.....Recommended

L'absolu Rouge Hydrating Lipstick  
.....Recommended

L'absolu Rouge Intimatte  
.....Recommended

## MAC

Amplified Lipstick  
.....Not Recommended

Cremesheen Lipstick  
.....Not Recommended

Lustreglass Sheer-Shine Lipstick  
.....Not Recommended

Matte Lipstick  
.....Recommended

Retro Matte Liquid Lipcolour  
.....Recommended

## Maybelline

Color Sensational The Creams, Cream Finish  
Lipstick Makeup.....Recommended

Color Sensational The Mattes, Matte Finish  
Lipstick Makeup.....Recommended

Color Sensational Ultimatte Slim Lipstick Makeup  
.....Recommended

Super Stay 24 2-Step Liquid Lipstick Makeup  
.....Recommended

Super Stay Ink Crayon Lipstick, Matte  
Longwear Lipstick Makeup.....Recommended

Super Stay Matte Ink Liquid Lipstick  
.....Recommended

## Revlon

Colorstay Ultimate Liquid Lipstick  
.....Recommended

Super Lustrous Lipstick  
.....Recommended

Ultra HD Matte Lip Color  
.....Recommended

**Lotions**.....All are recommended

**Mascara**.....All are recommended

**Miscellaneous**

Adwe - Mouthwash (assorted varieties)  
.....Recommended

Anbesol Maximum Strength Liquid  
.....Possible *Chametz*

Asthma Inhalers, all types (Liquid Vapor)  
.....Recommended

Bayer Low Dose Baby Aspirin Chewables (Cherry and Orange)  
.....Possible *Chametz*

Bonine Raspberry Flavored (Chewable)  
.....Possible *Chametz* (dairy)

Castor Oil (pure) (Liquid)  
.....Recommended

Chapstick Classic Original  
.....Recommended

Chapstick Moisturizer  
.....Recommended

**Contact Lens Solution**

We reviewed the ingredients used in several popular brands of contact lens solution and did not see anything which was sensitive for Pesach. But we did not get to see every single product, so to be sure yours is okay please send a copy of the ingredient panel to [info@crckosher.org](mailto:info@crckosher.org) so one of our Rabbis can evaluate your specific product.

Dramamine Chewables  
.....Possible *Chametz*

Ensure Assorted Nutritional Supplements  
.....See Nutritional Supplement Pages

Femcon Fe (brown and white pills) (Chewable Tablet)  
.....Possible *Chametz* (dairy)

Fixodent Extra Hold (Powder)  
.....Recommended

Fixodent Original (Cream)  
.....Recommended

FlavorX Assorted Flavors (Liquid)  
.....Possible *Chametz*

Floss, Flavored  
.....Possible *Chametz*

Floss, Unflavored  
.....Recommended

Kanka Mouth-pain Liquid  
.....Possible *Chametz*

Lip Balm Assorted  
.....Recommended (preferably without flavor)

Lipo Flavonoid Plus (Caplet)  
.....Recommended

Listerine PocketPaks, Assorted varieties (Dissolving strip)  
.....Not Recommended

NoDoz Alertness Aid (Caplet)  
.....Recommended

Orajel Mouth Sores Triple Medicated (Gel)  
.....Recommended

Pedialyte Liters and Singles (Liquid)  
.....Recommended

Polident Overnight Whitening (Tablet)  
.....Possible *Chametz*

Polygrip Free (Cream)  
.....Recommended

Polygrip Original (Cream)  
.....Recommended

Probiotics, Assorted  
.....Powders, liquids & gelcaps need certification; pills do not

Unisom Sleepmelts (Meltaway)  
.....Possible *Chametz*

Unisom SleepTab (Tablet)  
.....Recommended

Vivarin (Tablet)  
.....Recommended

**Mousse**.....See Hairspray and Mousse

**Mouthwash**  
.....Only recommended if known to be *Chametz*-free

**Nail Polish**.....All are recommended

**Ointments**  
.....All are recommended

**Perfume**

Recommended if free of (denatured) alcohol or if manufactured in the United States

**Shampoo**

.....All are recommended

**Shaving cream**

Cream

.....All are recommended

Gels

.....All are recommended

Liquid

.....Recommended if free of (denatured) alcohol or if manufactured in the United States

Lotion

.....All are recommended

**Toothpaste**

.....Only recommended if known to be *Chametz*-free

**Vitamins**

.....See Guidelines above

**Wipes**

Recommended if free of (denatured) alcohol or if manufactured in the United States

**Toothpaste**

There are those who take the position that toothpaste is considered inedible, since any food that tastes like toothpaste would never be served as a meal-item. This is the justification for why many Rabbis permit the use of any toothpaste (year-round) despite the possibility that the glycerin contained in the toothpaste is made from non-kosher animal fat. Others argue that toothpaste is *halachically* considered edible, and they are supported by the fact that people put toothpaste into their mouths every day (and that young children choose to eat it). Some follow that position all year-round and will only use a toothpaste that is certified as kosher (or free of glycerin).

The cRc accepts the lenient approach as relates to year-round use but recommends that one be *machmir* to the strict opinion as relates to Pesach. Therefore, for Pesach we recommend that one only use a toothpaste that is known to be *chametz*-free.

What ingredients in toothpaste might be *chametz*? Just about every variety of toothpaste contains sorbitol, which is created by “hydrogenating” glucose. Glucose can be derived from *chametz*, *kitnios*, or completely innocuous ingredients, and (although most glucose and sorbitol in the United States is not made from *chametz*) we cannot recommend toothpaste unless we know what the glucose is made from. Toothpastes also commonly contain other minor ingredients which raise *chametz* concerns.

**Wishing you  
a  
Chag Kasher V'Sameiach!**



Thank you for making me the #1 producer in West Rogers Park, and a top producer in Peterson Park, Lincolnwood, and Skokie!

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