## Chicago Rabbinical Council

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פסח תשפ"ד / Pesach 2024

## 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.

Rabbi Yona Reiss

Av Beis Din, Chicago Rabbinical Council

Rabbi Shmuel Fuerst

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