

# Chicago Rabbinical Council

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פסח תש"פ / Pesach 2020

## MEDICINES, COSMETICS & TOILETRIES FOR PESACH

This letter refers to *Pesach*-specific concerns; Please consult your Rabbi regarding the use of medicines, cosmetics, and toiletries on *Shabbos* or *Yom Tov*.

### MEDICINES

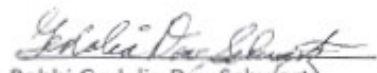
- All pill or non-chewable tablet medication— with or without *chametz* – that one swallows is permitted. [Candy-coated pills are an exception to this rule, but they are quite uncommon]. Vitamins and food supplements do not necessarily fall into this category, and each person should consult with their 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.

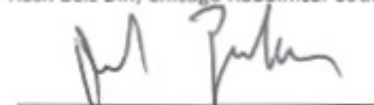
**Important: Do not discontinue use of liquid, chewable or any other medicine without consulting with your doctor and Rabbi.**

- 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 Gedalia Dov Schwartz  
Rosh Beis Din, Chicago Rabbinical Council

  
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