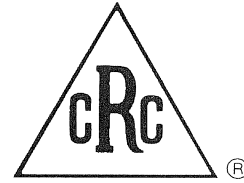


# Chicago Rabbinical Council

2701 West Howard Street  
Chicago, IL 60645  
(773) 465-3900 Fax: (773) 465-6632

email: [fishbane@crcweb.org](mailto:fishbane@crcweb.org)

Rabbi Sholem Y. Fishbane  
Kashruth Administrator



March 2009

## 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

***A note of caution:*** Labels bearing the inscription “**Kosher for Passover**” can be produced by any printer. The presence of such a label does not guarantee that the product to which it is affixed is therefore truly Kosher for Passover. For a product to be considered Kosher for Passover, it must bear the endorsement of an authoritative Orthodox Rabbi or Rabbinic group. This especially applies to companies producing meat products for Passover use.

## **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.

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

### **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*.

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

#### **Allergy, Cold & Pain Relief:**

ALL pill medication that one swallows is permitted without special hashgacha

**Antacids:** ALL pill medication that one swallows is permitted without special hashgacha.

**Anti-diarrhea:** ALL pill medication that one swallows is permitted without special hashgacha.

**Vitamins:** Vitamins are normally not considered pill medication, but rather a food or food supplement. **As such, the p'sak 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](http://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 & 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.

**In keeping with the above statement, please note the following information pertaining to specific cosmetics and toiletries:**

**Acne Treatment:** ALL creams, lotions and ointments are acceptable

**Blush:** ALL are acceptable

**Creams & Lotions:** ALL are acceptable

**Contact Lens Solutions &**

**Cleaners:** ALL are acceptable

**Dental Floss:** Unflavored only

**Deodorant:** ALL sticks and gels are acceptable; for liquid deodorants, *Chametz*-free only should be used. Specific product information will be posted here as it becomes available.

**Eyeliners:** ALL are acceptable

**Eyeshadow:** ALL are acceptable

**Foot Care:** ALL creams, ointments, lotions and foot and hand powders are acceptable

**Hair Remover:** ALL are acceptable

**Hair Gel, Mousse:** ALL are acceptable

**Hand Care:** ALL creams, ointments, lotions and foot and hand powders are acceptable

**Lip Products:** *Chametz*-free only should be used. Specific product information will be posted here as it becomes available.

**Makeup (foundation, etc.):**

ALL types of creams, lotions, ointments, blush, mascara and face powder are acceptable

**Makeup Remover:** ALL creams, lotions, etc. are acceptable

**Mascara:** ALL are acceptable

**Mouthwash:** The cRc recommends that a mouthwash with a reliable Passover hashgacha be used.

**Nail Polish:** All are acceptable

**Perfumes & Colognes:** *Chametz*-free only should be used. Specific product information will be posted here as it becomes available.

**Powders:** ALL are acceptable

**Shampoos & Conditioners:** ALL are acceptable

**Soap:** ALL are acceptable

**Sunblock:** ALL creams and lotions are acceptable.

**Toothpaste:** The cRc recommends that toothpaste with a reliable Passover hashgacha be used.