



## Featured in [Dosiz](#): Tahareinu Certification Course

*Translation based on the Hebrew*

**There is no import/export tax on knowledge, but its appreciation value is immeasurable.**

**Rabbi Yitzchak Melber, CEO of Tahareinu, has managed to attend reproductive health conferences in nearly every country they're held.**

Traversing the globe, gleaning all the updates from medical conferences on reproductive health, innovations and technological advances, Rabbi Melber sees his mission as a holy "importer" of professional medical know-how to Eretz Yisrael and to Jewish communities worldwide.

"They've never stopped me at Ben Gurion customs for importing my medical updates," quips Rabbi Melber, qualifying that his information has brought invaluable "health wealth" to hundreds and thousands of families.

Advancements in health are changing medicine the world over, yet there's no field which affects Jews halachically as much as women's and men's reproductive health, namely tahara and fertility. Rabbi Melber views the interface of medicine with halakhah as the forum for him to fulfill his mission of transmitting medical innovation knowledge to Torah-observant Jews in Israel and worldwide.

For over a decade, Rabbi Melber has served as chairman of Tahareinu (originally called Torat HaMishpacha). "In recent years I have seen it as my duty - above and beyond providing counseling to couples - to disseminate the information I have accumulated to rabbis, teachers, and medical and mental health professionals. The vast possibilities for helping couples with tahara and reproductive health - without them having to search for miracle workers or so-called healers - is a daily feat."

Rabbi Melber recently completed lecturing for Tahareinu's latest certification course for dozens of rabbis all over the world online. After the final lecture, Rabbi Melber's desk accumulated praise letter after praise letter - written by the rabbis in Hebrew, English and Yiddish - lauding the invaluable information taught in the course. The vast, comprehensive and professional knowledge the rabbis received during each session brought them to a "next

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level” they could not have anticipated. They leave the course with a vault of medical awareness to take into consideration for their constituents who so often seek their halakhic advice.

"The medical information and terminology, given over professionally and astutely for our community, allow me to dialogue with the doctor before I provide a couple an answer - an answer for a subject on which the entire Jewish home is based," writes one of the course participant rabbis.

When you attend a lecture of Rabbi Melber's, if you didn't see his Chassidic garb you might mistake him for a university professor of medicine. His fluent English; his extensive, self-taught and ever-accumulating professional knowledge; and his in-depth understanding of medicine leaves the listener feeling as if he is attending a bonafide medical lecture on reproductive health.

When Rabbi Melber fuses the field of medicine with the field of halakha, you realize how much the knowledge he has accumulated over the years is a hidden treasure on which Torah depends. His course is structured with a professional syllabus which leaves no stone unturned with regards to the interface of medicine with halacha.

Indeed, the Tahareinu certification is not for just anyone, says Rabbi Melber. Its extensive series of workshops are built especially for professionals who work with taharat hamishpacha: rabbis, rebbetzins, and chosson and kallah teachers.

The purpose of the Tahareinu course for professionals is first and foremost to learn how to ask the right questions. Course participants gain confidence to conduct dialogue with medical professionals to successfully address halakhic issues simultaneously with the relevant medical influences. The medical knowledge given over in the course facilitates broader options within the halacha, whereas previously, the lack of knowledge sometimes led to either too *machmir* (strict) - or too *maikel* (lenient) - of a decision.

By the end of the Tahareinu Certification Course, participants are armed with an understanding of the medical aspect involved which facilitates the most accurate way to address the halacha, undoubtedly bringing a sense of joy, peace and light to many Jewish homes. "Every time I see another light come on into another home, I feel that my mission is a sacred mission," states Rabbi Melber.

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