65871 - Is It Permissible to Take Medicine While Fasting?

the question

I have medication for my mental problem. I have to take my medicine in the morning and in the evening. This evening medicine makes me tired and sometimes I can't wake up for suhur and then I miss my morning medicine. And it is late to take the morning medicine at iftar time. What should I do? I have been fasting for a few days now but I stopped today because of this medication. Is it possible that I pay sadaqa at the end of Ramadan?

Summary of answer

If you can take the medicine once when breaking the fast and once at suhur, then this is what you have to do, and it is not permissible for you to break the fast because there is no excuse that makes it permissible not to fast.

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

Can sick people skip fasting?

We ask Allah, the Lord of the mighty Throne, to heal you and to reward you.

In the answer to question No. 12488 , we described the kind of sickness which makes it permissible for a person to break the fast. This is any sickness that causes intense hardship for one who fasts, or there is the fear that his sickness may become worse or his recovery may be delayed if he fasts. If your situation is like this, then it is permissible for you not to fast in Ramadan.

Is it permissible to take medicine while fasting?

If you can take the medicine once when breaking the fast and once at suhur, then this is what you have to do, and it is not permissible for you to break the fast in that case, because there is no excuse that makes it permissible not to fast.

But if that is not possible, and you have no choice but to take the medicine during the day, then it is permissible for you not to fast.

Can sick people give charity instead of fasting?

With regard to giving charity instead of fasting, you have to refer to trustworthy doctors. If there is the hope of recovery from your sickness, then you have to make up the fasts and it is not permissible for you to feed others instead, because Allah says (interpretation of the meaning): “but if any of you is ill or on a journey, the same number (should be made up) from other days” [al-Baqarah 2:184]. So you should wait until Allah heals you then make up the days that you did not fast.

But if there is no hope of recovery from your sickness , then you do not have to make up for the missed fasts, and you have to feed one poor person for every day.

It should be noted that what is required is to give food, and giving money instead of food does not count. This has been explained in the answer to question no. 39234

And Allah knows best.