

Public Fentanyl Awareness Bulletin

The Danger of Fentanyl to Youth in Our Community



What is Fentanyl?

Fentanyl is a strong synthetic opioid 100 times more potent than Morphine and 50 times more potent than heroin. Illicitly manufactured fentanyl is produced in Mexico and trafficked into the United States. Just a small amount can cause someone to overdose and die. Fentanyl is the main driver for opioid deaths in our state

Can you tell which pill contains a deadly dose of fentanyl?



Neither can your child.

How Can You Help Reduce The Risk?

Youth need to be educated on the dangers of fentanyl as well as the dangers of other drugs.

- ◆ You cannot tell if a pill is fake or if it contains a deadly amount of fentanyl by looking at it. Assume all pills not obtained from a doctor or pharmacy are fake and contain fentanyl.
- ◆ Do not trust a drug dealer. Pills and other substances purchased online or on social media are not safe. Many times the dealer may not even know what he has contains fentanyl.
- ◆ Know the signs of an opioid overdose
- ◆ If you suspect someone you know may be using illegal drugs, reach out for help before it's too late

Signs of an opioid overdose:

- Constricted or pinpoint pupils
- Slow, shallow or no breathing
- Gurgling or snoring sound
- Extreme drowsiness
- Difficult to wake
- Cold or clammy skin
- Grey/blue skin, fingernails or lips

If someone is overdosing

- ◆ Call EMS immediately
- ◆ Administer naloxone if available
- ◆ If naloxone is not available, rescue breathing and/or CPR can be used until EMS arrives

What Does Fentanyl Look Like?

Fentanyl comes in multiple forms including powder, capsules, pressed counterfeit pills, liquid and crystal. The most common form seen in Nevada is powder and pill form. Fentanyl is colorless, odorless and is often times put into other substances including heroin, cocaine, methamphetamine and ecstasy without the dealer and users knowledge.

What Are Pressed Counterfeit Pills?

Pressed counterfeit pills are illicitly manufactured pills containing fentanyl and other substances that are made to look like real pharmaceuticals. Pressed pills can resemble multiple pharmaceuticals including Xanax, Adderall and Oxycodone. The most common form resemble blue Oxycodone pills, however pills are now being seen in a rainbow of colors which are believed to be targeting our youth. Due to the small amount of fentanyl it takes to cause an overdose, often times only one pill can be deadly.



(U) Contact

(U) For more information about this bulletin, please contact Nevada HIDTA at NV-HIDTA@lvmpd.com.

References:

Nevada HIDTA information as of September 2022
Arizona HIDTA: <https://www.azhidta.org/expert-resources/fentanyl>
Oregon-Idaho HIDTA: Community Threat Bulletin April 2022
Drug Enforcement Administration: DEA Warns of Brightly-Colored Fentanyl Used to Target Young Americans August 30, 2022