

# FENTANYL FAST FACTS

Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid that is up to 50 times stronger than heroin and 100 times stronger than morphine.

It is a major contributor to fatal and non-fatal overdoses.

There are two types of fentanyl: pharmaceutical fentanyl and illegally made fentanyl. Both are considered synthetic opioids. Pharmaceutical fentanyl is prescribed by doctors to treat pain, especially for surgical pain and advanced-stage cancer pain.

Illegally made fentanyl is cheap and is available in powder or liquid forms. Powdered fentanyl looks like many other drugs, and it is commonly mixed with drugs like heroin, cocaine, and methamphetamine. It is also made into pills that are made to look like other prescription medications. Fentanyl laced drugs are extremely dangerous and many people may be unaware that their drugs are laced with fentanyl.

Fentanyl and other synthetic opioids are the most common drugs in overdose deaths. Over 150 people die every day from overdoses related to synthetic opioids like fentanyl.

Drugs may contain deadly levels of fentanyl, and would not be able to see it, taste it, or smell it. It is nearly impossible to tell if drugs have been laced with fentanyl unless you test your drugs with fentanyl test strips.

Test strips are inexpensive and typically give results within 5 minutes and those 5 minutes can be the difference between life and death.

Even if the test is negative, take caution as test strips might not detect more potent fentanyl-like drugs.