

Signs of a Fentanyl Overdose

- Small, constricted "pinpoint pupils"
- Falling asleep or losing consciousness
- Slow, weak, or no breathing
- Choking or gurgling sounds
- Limp body
- Cold, clammy, and/or discolored skin

How to Respond to a Suspected Overdose

- Call 911 immediately.
- Administer naloxone if available.
- Try to keep the victim awake and breathing.
- Lay the victim on their side.
- Stay with the victim until emergency workers arrive.

UCMJ Article 112(a)

Any person "who wrongfully uses, possesses, manufactures, distributes, imports into the customs territory of the United States, exports from the United States, or introduces into an installation, vessel, vehicle, or aircraft used by or under the control of the armed forces" is subject to court-martial and separation.

Resources

Navy Drug and Alcohol Deterrence:
<https://www.mynavyhr.navy.mil/Support-Services/21st-Century-Sailor/Drug-Alcohol-Deterrence/>

Navy Medicine Alcohol and Drug:
<https://www.med.navy.mil/Navy-Marine-Corps-Public-Health-Center/Population-Health/Health-Promotion-and-Wellness/LGuide-Index/Alcohol-and-Drug-Abuse/>

USMC Community Services Substance Abuse Prevention Assets and Resources:
<https://www.usmc-mccs.org/substance/>



REPORT IT



Local NCIS Office
Phone #:



www.ncis.navy.mil



"NCIS Tips"
Android and iPhone App



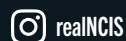
Web and smartphone reporting is anonymous.



You can use this QR Code
to quickly access NCIS
Tips using your smart
device.

Local NCIS Office or command contact information here:

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WWW.NCIS.NAVY.MIL

Created by the NCIS Office of Strategic Communications



ONE PILL CAN KILL

Taking a pill **NOT** purchased from a
licensed pharmacy can be a deadly decision.



Get a closer look at the dangers of
counterfeit pills at DEA.gov/OnePill.

ONE PILL CAN KILL

The Naval Criminal Investigative Service, in partnership with the Drug Enforcement Administration, warns all Department of the Navy personnel and their families about the increasing lethality and availability of fake prescription pills containing fentanyl and methamphetamine. These counterfeit pills are easy to purchase, widely available, and often contain deadly doses of fentanyl, all of which pose a significant threat to our safety and our national security.



What is Fentanyl?

Fentanyl is a potent synthetic opioid drug approved by the Food and Drug Administration for use in pain relief and as an anesthetic. Fentanyl is a Schedule II narcotic under the United States Controlled Substances Act of 1970.

There are two types of fentanyl:

- Pharmaceutical fentanyl - is prescribed by doctors to treat severe pain, especially after surgery.
- Illicitly manufactured fentanyl - is distributed through illegal means and has a heroin-like effect. It is often added to other drugs because of its extreme potency, making the drugs cheaper, more powerful, more addictive, and more dangerous.

Why is Fentanyl Abused?

Fentanyl dominates the illicit opioid supply because of its potency. It is 50 times more potent than heroin and 100 times more powerful than morphine. It provides a high similar to that of heroin, but way stronger. It has been found in all 50 states, and is easily obtainable via social media and e-commerce platforms. Fentanyl can be sold alone, but illegal narcotics manufacturers often add it to their products because its high potency allows dealers to traffic smaller quantities while maintaining the drug effects their buyers expect.

What are the Dangers of Fentanyl?

Fentanyl is addictive and its extreme potency makes it extremely easy to overdose. When a user overdoses on fentanyl, their breathing can slow or stop, decreasing the flow of oxygen to the brain. This is a condition known as hypoxia, and it can lead to coma, brain damage, and death.

It can take as little as two milligrams of fentanyl to cause an overdose. In 2022, the DEA seized over 20,000,000 pills containing fentanyl. Of the pills seized, 40 percent (8,000,000) contained at least two milligrams of fentanyl—a potentially lethal dose. It is possible, and common, for someone to take a pill or a narcotic without even knowing it contains fentanyl.

What Does Fentanyl Look Like?

Pharmaceutical fentanyl comes in many forms, including oral “lollipops,” effervescent tablets, oral drops and sprays, nasal sprays, patches, and injections. Legitimate fentanyl is obtained from diversion and theft from pharmacies, or abusing/sharing legitimate prescriptions.



Can you tell the difference?

On the left, an authentic 30mg tablet of oxycodone; on the right, a counterfeit tablet potentially containing a fatal dose of fentanyl.

Photo courtesy of: Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)

Illicitly manufactured fentanyl is found in three main forms: liquid, powdered and pill form. Liquid fentanyl is added to nasal sprays and eye drops, or dropped onto paper, similar to LSD. Powdered fentanyl looks like many other drugs, and is commonly mixed with heroin, cocaine, and methamphetamine. Fentanyl is often pressed into pills resembling common prescription opioids, such as Percocet and oxycodone. It is often extremely difficult to distinguish the counterfeit pills from the authentic pills.