

Non-prescription fentanyl is causing a spike in overdose deaths in the U.S. Over 150 people die every day from overdoses related to synthetic opioids like fentanyl.

Fentanyl is often mixed with heroin or cocaine—with or without the users' knowledge—to increase the high. It can also be pressed into pills that look identical to oxycodone, Percocet, and Xanax.

## Use fentanyl test strips to check for the presence of fentanyl, and help prevent drug overdoses.

These small strips of paper can detect the presence of fentanyl in all kinds of drugs (cocaine, methamphetamine, heroin, etc.) and drug forms (pills, powder, and injectables).

### Test strips are easy to use

Depending on the type of drug being tested for, the steps below may be slightly different (follow the directions that come with the strips).

**Step 1:** Set a small amount of the drug aside.

**Step 2:** Add water and mix.

**Step 3:** Place the wavy end of the test strip in the water.

**Step 4:** Take the strip out of the water and set it on a flat surface.

Step 5: Read results\*.

# Two red lines: negative for fentanyl One red line: positive for fentanyl Source: CDC.gov

### Where to get fentanyl test strips



Fentanyl test strips retail for \$1 or less. Some retailers have low-cost online ordering (e.g. dancesafe.org, bunkpolice.com and amazon.com).

Check with your local public health department, or at a needle-exchange program – they may be provided at no cost.

\* Still use with caution and follow these tips even when test shows a negative result.

#### Lower your risk of overdose

- Carry Narcan: Let friends or family know where Narcan naloxone is stored in the home. Talk with your provider about a prescription, or visit nextdistro.org. You may be able to access mail-based naloxone.
- Avoid Mixing Drugs: Mixing stimulants (i.e. meth and cocaine) or depressants (i.e. opioids, benzodiazepines and alcohol) can lead to overdose and/or death.
- Don't Use Alone: Call Never Use Alone 877-696-1996, an overdose prevention lifeline.
- **Go Slow**: Always start with a small test dose. Use less if there have been any changes to drug source or user experience, since the body can react differently every time.



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