



Quick Facts About Fentanyl

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What is Fentanyl?

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

It is legally used to treat severe pain but is also made illegally and sold in counterfeit pills.

Why is Fentanyl So Dangerous?

Only 2 milligrams (about the size of a few grains of salt) can be deadly.

Fake pills containing fentanyl often look identical to real prescription medications.

Fentanyl is often mixed with drugs like heroin, cocaine, and methamphetamine - without the user's knowledge.

How Are Young People Exposed?

Pills are sold on social media platforms like Snapchat, Instagram, and TikTok.

Teens may believe they are taking a legitimate medication like Xanax, Adderall, or Percocet.

Friends or acquaintances may unknowingly share dangerous pills.



What Are the Signs of Fentanyl Overdose?

- Slow, shallow breathing
- Cold or clammy skin
- Pinpoint pupils
- Loss of consciousness
- Gurgling or choking sounds

Immediate use of naloxone (Narcan) can reverse the effects if given quickly.



How Can Parents Protect Their Children?

Talk early and often about the risks.

Teach kids to never take pills from anyone other than a doctor or parent.

Monitor online activity and set clear safety rules about buying or accepting anything online.

Keep naloxone at home and know how to use it.

