

# DANGEROUS STUFF!

Fentanyl is a dangerous, powerful Schedule II narcotic responsible for an epidemic of overdose deaths within the United States. During the last few years, the distribution of manufactured fentanyl has been linked to an unprecedented outbreak of thousands of overdoses and deaths. Fentanyl, up to 50 times more potent than heroin, is extremely dangerous to anyone who may ingest it.

# SIGNS, SIGNS ...

#### **Warning Signs of Misuse**

- Isolation from family and friends
- Poor academic performance and a lack of interest in school
- Extreme changes in appearance and attitude
- Difficulty communicating
- Injection wounds or track marks
- Fatigue followed by patterns of alertness

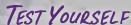
#### **How to Identify an Overdose**

- Slow or no breathing
- Excessive sweating
- Blue lips
- Gasping, snoring or gurgling

# WHAT NOW?

#### How to Act if an overdose occurs

You should call 9-1-1 immediately and inform paramedics what was taken and how much. If the Fentanyl is a patch, remove the patch immediately. If the Fentanyl is a lozenge, remove it from the person's mouth. If on hand, you should administer Naloxone (Narcan), and tell the paramedics when they arrive.



### How much do you know about Fentanyl? Let's test your knowledge.

1. How much more powerful than Heroin is Fentanyl?

a. 5 times

b. 15 times

c. 25 times

d. 50 times

2. What is a possible antidote for Fentanyl overdose?

a. Caffeine

b. Methamphetamine

c. Narcan

d. Water

3. Fentanyl pills and powder, that come in a variety of bright colors, shapes and sizes, and is thought to lure young children, is known as: dangerous.

a. Crazy Fentanyl

b. Kiddie Fentanyl

c. Rainbow Fentanyl

d. Teen Fentanyl

4. Synthetic Opioids contributes to 40% of overdose deaths.

a. True

b. False

5. Fentanyl is often mixed with other drugs without the user's knowledge. One such drug is:

a. Percocet

b. Heroir

c. Cocaine

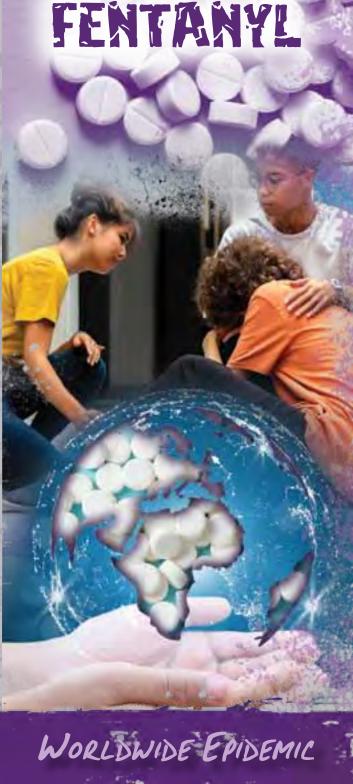
d. All of the Above

nswers: 1.d 2.c 3.c 4.b 5.d

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#### (STay safe series)

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# WHAT IS FENTANYL?

Fentanyl is a very powerful prescription opioid that is highly addictive. It is similar in make up to heroin and morphine and often produced in illegal, unregulated labs. Fentanyl may be snorted, injected or swallowed and looks like a white powder that is often transformed for prescription use into pills, liquid, patches or lollipops. On the street, Fentanyl is often called Apache, China Girl, China White, Dance Fever, Friend, Goodfella, Jackpot, Murder8, TNT and Tango & Cash.

# HOW DOES IT WORK?

Fentanyl fuses to the body's opiate receptors, the areas of the brain that control pain and emotions. This drives up dopamine levels in the brain, producing a state of euphoria.

# SHORT & LONG-TERM EFFECTS

### **Short-Term Effects:**

- Vomiting and nausea
- Track marks, sores and itching at the injection sites
- Often practicing in risky behaviors
- Risk of being exposed to HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis
- Depressed breathing and respiratory problems
- Painful withdrawal symptoms, including insomnia, diarrhea and vomiting, muscle aches and chills
- Risk of overdose or death

#### **Long-Term Effects**

- Insomnia
- Depression
- Risk of liver and kidney disease
- Infection of the heart lining and other heart problems
- Death



# FENTANYL MIXED WITH ILLICIT DRUGS... WHY?

Fentanyl is often mixed with other drugs without the user's knowledge. Some of these drugs are cocaine, MDMA, meth, opioids like Percocet or Oxycodone, heroin and anxiety medication, like Xanax and xylazine animal sedative. There has been a huge rise in heroin overdoses when users unknowingly ingest Fentanyl. The CDC has reported that 73% of opioid overdose deaths in the emergency room involved synthetic opioids such as Fentanyl, with numbers rising. The DEA has reported that 1 in 4 pills found on the streets is laced with a synthetic opioid, primarily Fentanyl.

So, why are dealers mixing an already deadly drug with an even deadlier one? One reason is that Fentanyl is much cheaper to produce and is used as a "cutter" so that they can make more money. Also, Fentanyl is easily disguised as a pharmaceutical pill, which makes people feel safer trying it.

# RAINBOW FENTANYL

Rainbow Fentanyl comes in a variety of bright colors, shapes and sizes as pills and powder. Regular Fentanyl and Rainbow Fentanyl are basically the same drug, and the effects of using either of these will be the same. Rainbow Fentanyl, however, are made to appear like candy, in order to lure young children and drive addiction amongst kids and young adults. Many people are worried that kids will take these pills thinking they are another drug or even assuming it's candy which may lead to accidental ingestion and possible overdose. Teens

and possible overdose. Teens are calling this form of fentanyl "Sweet Tarts" and other candy-like names.



#### Sara's Story

Sara, a seventeen-year-old Junior in High School, was known by her friends and family for her kindness and always taking up for the underdogs. She was on the volleyball team, and although she wasn't a starter yet, her coach considered her one of the leaders of the team because she was always able to motivate everyone.

One Saturday night, Sara went with some friends to a classmate's party. She was so excited and planned on meeting up with a guy, Ben, she had been talking to. When she arrived at the party, everyone was singing and dancing along. Sara noticed Ben across the room. They began talking and were inseparable the rest of the night.

The party was almost over when one of Ben's friends handed each of them a pill and said it was Percocet that he bought from a classmate. But what Joey didn't know was that the pills were "cut" with Fentanyl. Sara was very reluctant to take the pill, but she didn't want Ben to think she wasn't cool, so she grabbed a glass of water and swallowed the pill quickly.



At first, nothing happened, but after a while, Sara felt a rush of euphoria. Soon after, she felt more relaxed and tired then she's ever felt, so she asked a friend to bring her home. As soon as Sara got home, she crashed on the living room sofa. Sara's sister came downstairs and noticed her on the sofa. Sara was unresponsive. Her sister woke their parents and they called 9-1-1. By the time the paramedics got to their house, it was too late. Sara stopped breathing and was pronounced dead.

After an autopsy was performed, the cause of death was shocking to Sara's parents...a lethal overdose of Fentanyl.