

# Prescription Drug/Fentanyl Safety Education

Let's  
Save  
Lives!



National Coalition Against Prescription Drug Abuse



# National Epidemic



# National Overdose Deaths

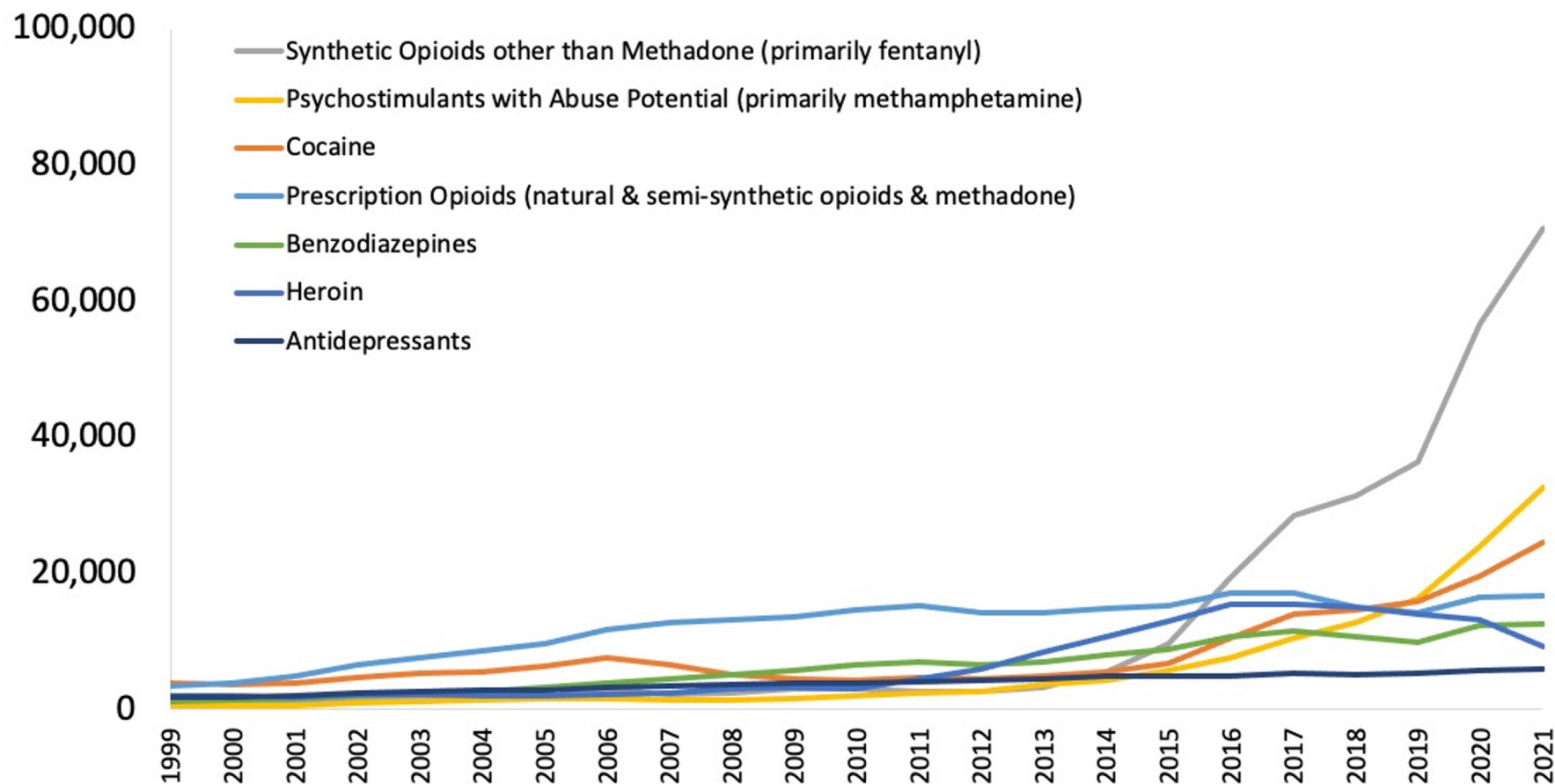
**Provisional Data for 2022**  
**109,680**

**(300 Average/Day )**

**82,998 Involved Opioids**



# Figure 2. National Drug-Involved Overdose Deaths\*, Number Among All Ages, 1999-2021



\*Includes deaths with underlying causes of unintentional drug poisoning (X40–X44), suicide drug poisoning (X60–X64), homicide drug poisoning (X85), or drug poisoning of undetermined intent (Y10–Y14), as coded in the International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision. Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. Multiple Cause of Death 1999–2021 on CDC WONDER Online Database, released 1/2023.

# Avoidable Deaths





# Common Misconception

**PD's Safer Than Illegal Drugs  
Because a Doctor Prescribed Them**

**Just as Deadly**

**But they can be...**

**Just as Addictive**

**Just as Illegal**

# Community Impact

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**Death**



**Crime**



**Substance Use  
Disorder**



**Drugged Driving  
Injury**



**U.S Financial Costs  
\$72+ Billion/Year**

# National Economic Impact

## Exceeded \$1 Trillion Since 2001

### Health Care

- **\$215.7 Billion**

### Lost Earnings & Productivity

- **\$800,00/Person Based on Average Age of 41 for Overdose Victims**

### Criminal Justice, Child & Family Assistance, Education

- **\$7.8 Billion**



# Personal Risks

## Health Issues

**HIV/AIDS**

**Hepatitis  
B & C**

**Sexually  
Transmitted  
Illnesses**

**Substance  
Use  
Disorder**

# No Boundaries



**High Performing  
Students & Athletes**



**Those with Mental or  
Physical Health  
Issues**



**Parents, Co-Workers,  
Elderly  
Anyone!**



# Signs of Substance Misuse

## Behavioral

- Loss of appetite
- Sudden changes in personality, mood, or attitude
- Unusual temper outbursts
- Lack of personal grooming
- Missing work or school
- Neglecting professional, academic, or personal responsibilities
- Engaging in secretive or suspicious behaviors

## Physical

- Sudden weight loss or weight gain
- Deterioration of physical appearance and personal grooming habits
- Slurred speech and impaired coordination
- Unusual odors on breath, clothing, car or bedroom
- Bloodshot eyes, pupils smaller or larger than usual

# Key Substance Use Disorder Risk Factors

**Family History of  
SUD**

**Early First Use**

**Mental Health  
Disorder**

**Childhood Trauma**

**Learning  
Disability**

**Environmental  
Conditions**

# Prescription Drug Danger Zone

**Prescription  
Painkillers**  
(Opioids)



**Sedatives/Benzos**

**Prescription  
Stimulants**



# Sedatives/Benzodiazepines



**Valium**



**Xanax**



**Ativan**



**Ambien**

## Effects

- **Quick Dependency**
- **Slowed Brain Function**
- **Lack of Coordination**
- **Sedated or Drowsy**
- **Disorientation**
- **Lethal Seizures**
- **Shallow Breathing and Slow Heart Rate**
- **Overdose**

# Stimulants



**Ritalin**



**Adderall**



**Dexedrine**

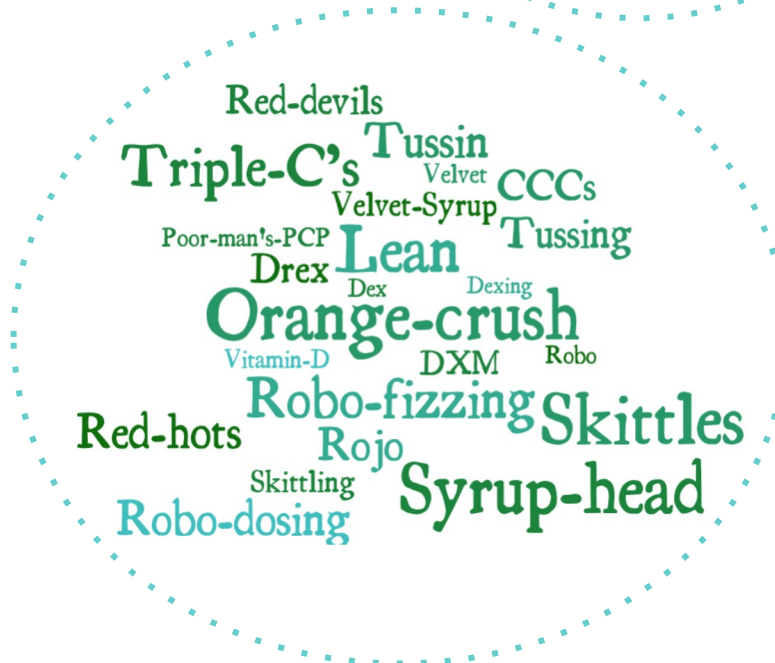
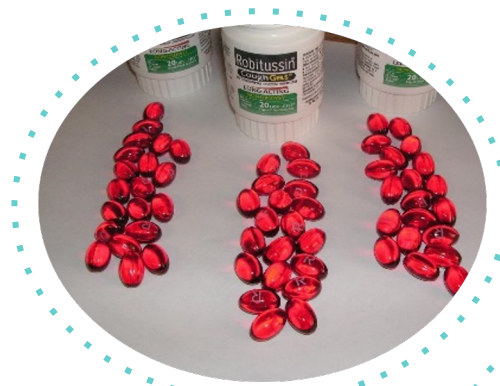
## Effects

- Increased Heart Rate & Blood Pressure
- Chronic Insomnia
- Angry Outbursts
- Seizures
- Dangerously High Temperature
- Heart Attack
- **Substance Use Disorder**

# Cough and Cold Medicine

## Effects

- Hallucinations
- Paranoia
- Disorientation
- Loss of Consciousness
- Seizures
- Brain Damage
- Substance Use Disorder
- **Overdose**



# Prescribed Painkillers (Opioids)



**OxyContin**



**Vicodin**



**Codeine**



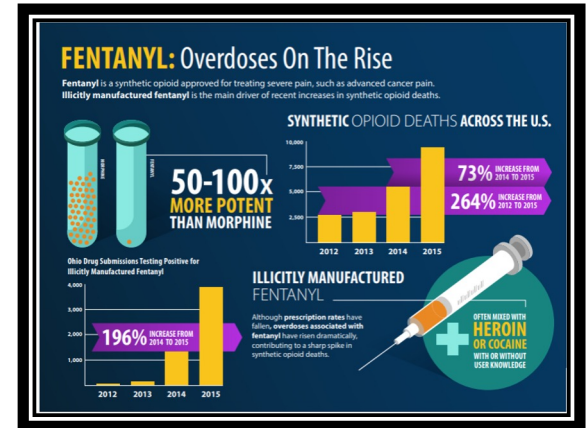
**Percocet**

## Effects

- Drowsiness
- Constipation
- Slowed or Stopped Breathing
- Opioid Use Disorder
- Overdose



# Synthetic/Illegal Opioids



Fentanyl Powder



Counterfeit Oxycodone





# What Are FentaPills?



# Xylazine



- ❑ **Only Approved for Veterinarian Medicine to Sedate Animals**
- ❑ **Being Added to Cocaine, Heroin and Primarily to Fentanyl to Extend the Opioid Effects**
- ❑ **Does NOT Respond to Naloxone**
- ❑ **Can Cause:**
  - **Respiratory Depression**
  - **Dangerously Low Heart Rate & Blood Pressure**
  - **Severe Skin Lesions, Tissue Damage**

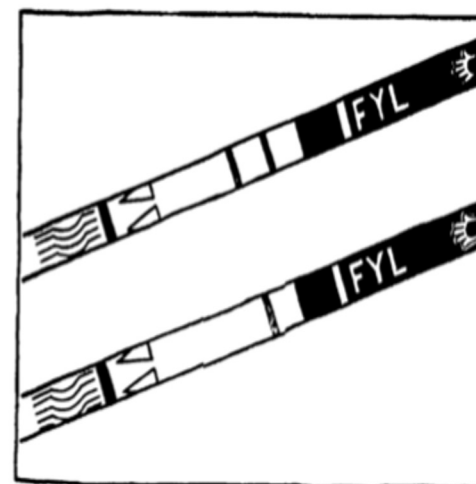
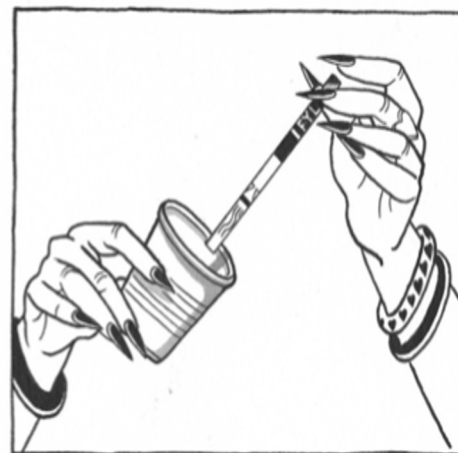
# Fentanyl Test Strips

- ❑ Fentanyl test strips ('FTS') can be used to test the presence of fentanyl in drug samples prior to ingestion.
- ❑ FTS are an accurate and reliable way to provide people at risk of fentanyl exposure with information that may increase their safety.

**Beware:** One portion of a drug being tested may contain fentanyl while another portion may not. **False negatives are possible. Use With Caution!**

[More Info](https://www.ncapda.org)

<https://www.ncapda.org>



# Opioid Overdose Antidote

## Naloxone Rescue Kits Save Lives!



4 mg. Nasal Spray



Intramuscular Injectable (IM)



8 mg. Nasal Spray

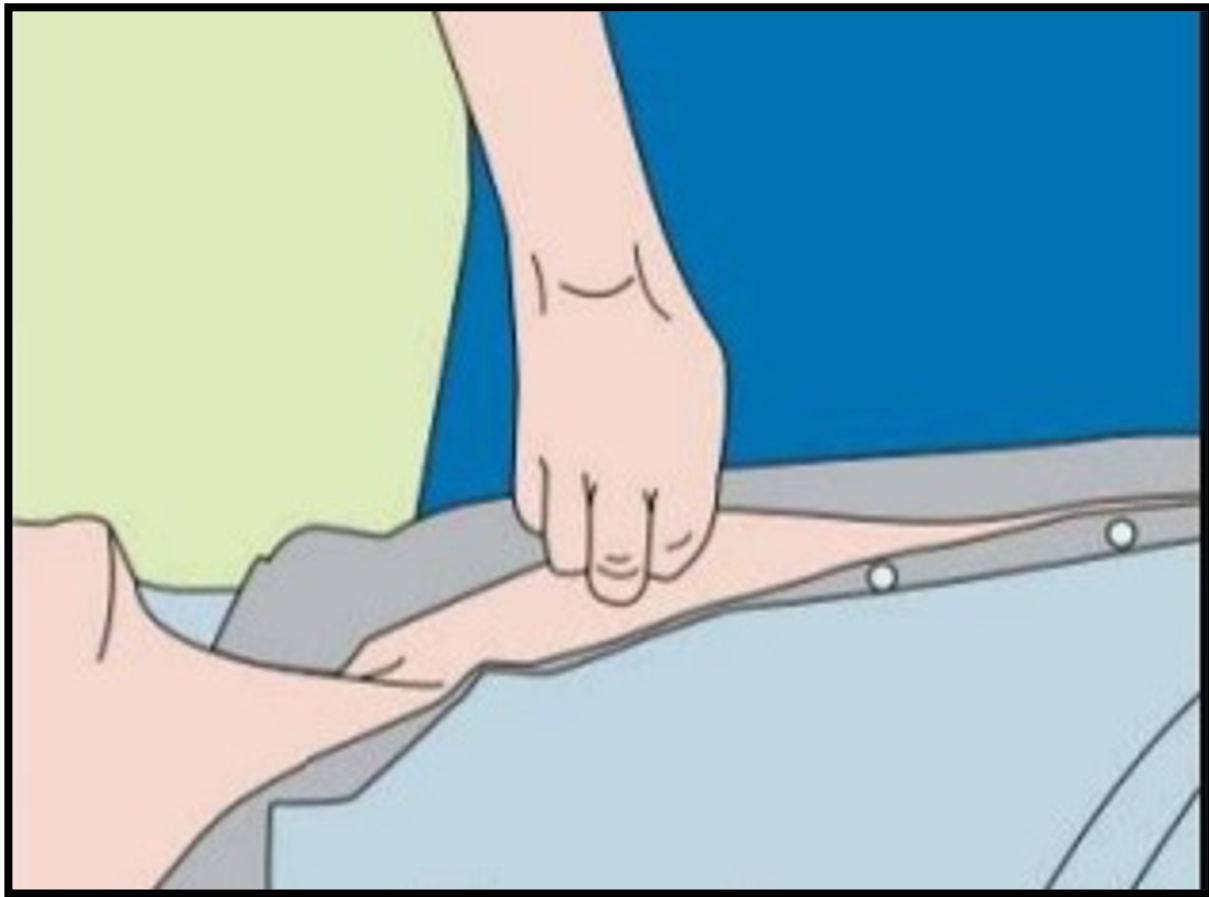
# Opioid Overdose Signs



- **Unresponsive. Can't Rouse – Unable to Speak**
- **Loss of Consciousness**
- **Breathing/Heartbeat Slow or Stopped**
- **Choking Sounds or Snore Like Gurgle**
- **Fingernails or Lips Blue/Purplish Black**



# Sternal Rub



## Administering Narcan



- Gently insert nozzle into nostril and spray
- Repeat in **2-4 minutes** if no response, using 2<sup>nd</sup> Narcan applicator

## Chest Compressions or Rescue Breathing



- Tilt head back, open mouth, pinch nose
- 2 breaths first, then 1 every 5 seconds
- Continue until breathing begins or help arrives

# Calling 911 for Help

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**Report if breathing has slowed or stopped and they're unresponsive**



**Give exact location  
(as much info as possible)**

**Tell paramedics what drugs and alcohol the person was using if known**

# Rescue Position

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**Bent Knee and Arm, Hand Supports Head**

# Important To Know

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- Naloxone lasts for 30 to 90 minutes – May overdose again, depending on remaining opioid levels
- **Beware:** May wake up combative and may want to use again
- Monitor person for several hours at the ER or by friends/family if won't go to ER
- Naloxone can only reverse an opioid overdose, but can still help if opioids are one of multiple drugs the person has consumed
- Naloxone can't hurt someone if they are not overdosing. When in doubt – use it!



# Good Samaritan Law



**Save a Life!**

**Don't Run...Call  
911**

- California Law AB 472 signed into law in September, 2012
- Provides limited immunity from low-level drug law violations
- **Does not apply to ...**
  - Selling, giving
  - Forcible administration
  - Driving under the influence

# Who Should Carry Naloxone?

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- **Person in Active SUD or their Family/Friend**
- **Recently Released from Residential Treatment Facility**
- **Recently Released from Jail/Prison With Opioid Addiction**
- **Taking High Dosage Opioids for Pain Problems**

**Everyone!**

# How Do You Get Naloxone?

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- **Doctor's Prescription**
- **Pharmacy – Over the Counter Without Prescription**
- **Recovery Clinics**
- **Needle Exchange Clinics**
- **[www.naloxoneforall.org](http://www.naloxoneforall.org) (FREE mailed to you)**



**TIME FOR ACTION**

# Take Action



**Educate  
Yourself &  
Share What You  
Learn**



**Lock Up &  
Properly  
Dispose of Meds**



# Alternative Treatment Options

## Pain Issues

- OTC Medications
- Physical/Water Therapy
- Manipulation/Chiropractic
- Acupuncture
- Braces/Corsets

## Anxiety/Sleep Issues

- Exercise
- Meditation
- Yoga
- Mindfulness Training
- Massage

# Resources

- ❑ **Partnership to End Addiction**  
<https://drugfree.org/>
- ❑ **Suicide and Substance Use Hotline (24/7)**  
**Call 1-800-662-HELP (4357)**
- ❑ **DEA's One Pill Can Kill Campaign**  
<https://admin.dea.gov/onepill>
- ❑ **DEA's Drug Facts**  
<https://admin.dea.gov/factsheets>
- ❑ **Song for Charlie**  
<https://www.songforcharlie.org/>



# Connect With NCAPDA



National Coalition Against Prescription Drug Abuse

**925-480-7723 or [info@ncapda.org](mailto:info@ncapda.org)**

**Website: [www.ncapda.org](http://www.ncapda.org)**

