

5 Things Families Need to Know About FENTANYL AND FAKE PILLS

1 WHAT IS FENTANYL?

Fentanyl is a pain medication that is **100 times** as strong as morphine.

Criminals are mixing it into street drugs and **fake pills that imitate prescription medications** like oxycodone, causing thousands of medical emergencies and deaths across the country.

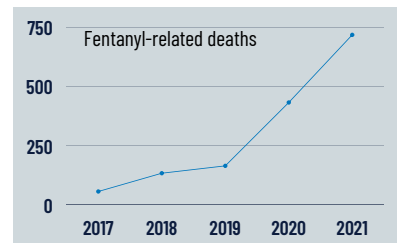


Image: Drug Enforcement Administration

2 IS IT AFFECTING ORANGE COUNTY?

In 2017, there were **57** fentanyl-related deaths in Orange County. In 2021, there were **717**.

Drug poisoning is now the **leading cause of accidental death**, with the highest rates among **adults ages 30-39**.



Source: Orange County Sheriff's Department, Coroner Division Annual Report 2021

3 HOW DO I TALK TO TEENS ABOUT IT?

Mention the news and this flyer as an opportunity to ask them **what they have seen and heard** about fentanyl and prescription pills.

Share the facts, show your concern, and stress that they should **only** take pills as prescribed by a doctor.



4 HOW CAN I PROTECT MY FAMILY?

Many pills are being sold on **social media**, so monitor your teen's accounts and use parental controls.

Secure and keep track of medications in the home and **dispose** of leftovers to prevent curious youth from experimenting with pills.



5 WHAT IS NALOXONE/NARCAN®?

Naloxone is a lifesaving emergency medication that can stop opioid poisoning and restore breathing.

If someone you know may be dealing with substance use or is in recovery, **learn the signs** of opioid poisoning and consider keeping naloxone on hand.

