

Using Fentanyl?

Here are some tips from people who use fentanyl on how to stay safe and prevent overdose!

Fentanyl is a very strong synthetic opioid. It's often described as 80 - 100 times stronger than morphine and 60 times stronger than heroin, but like any street drug, how strong something is also depends on your tolerance and the cut you're purchasing.

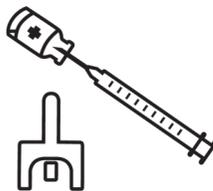
The same harm reduction practices that decrease your overdose risk when using heroin, other opioids, and other drugs will work for fentanyl and its analogues, too!

Narcan/naloxone works on fentanyl overdoses, but you should act fast. As soon as someone stops breathing, administer Narcan and start rescue breathing. One dose every two minutes, combined with rescuing breathing, will work!



Using alone means there's nobody there to respond if you go out, so make sure to be extra careful and double down on your other safety strategies when using alone, or have someone check on you!

Know the signs of an overdose and carry Narcan, no matter what drug you're using. If using in a group, make sure at least one person stays alert and has Narcan.



Fentanyl acts fast, so using **slowly** allows your body to adjust and gives you time to understand how it will hit you. Be mindful that the initial high can feel very intense, followed feeling more lucid—that doesn't mean the fentanyl has left your system, so "re-dosing" right away could lead to an overdose.

Because fentanyl is so strong, the margin of error is much smaller when it comes to overdose. Using less to start can help you gauge an appropriate dose for you!

Test your drugs so you can make the most educated decisions possible.

Try snorting or smoking instead of injecting. Injecting carries the highest risk for overdose, so shifting to snorting or smoking may help reduce risk. You can still overdose by smoking/snorting, especially with fentanyl, so start slow/use less to start!

