

FENTANYL TEST STRIPS



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is fentanyl?

Fentanyl is a powerful synthetic opioid that is 100 times more potent than morphine and at least 50 times more potent than heroin. It can be prescribed as a medication or found in drugs such as heroin, cocaine, and even marijuana. Fentanyl cannot be detected by sight, taste, smell, or touch.

What form does fentanyl come in?

Prescribed fentanyl comes in the form of pills or dermal (skin) patches. Illegal fentanyl can be found in liquid form, like eye drops, nasal spray, drops on paper, pressed pills, and powder. Counterfeit pills look identical to legally manufactured pills, causing frequent accidental overdose.

Why should I be concerned about fentanyl?

Most overdoses are unintentional, and individuals using may not realize the strength of the drug they are using or that it contains fentanyl. Fentanyl is now the leading cause of drug overdose deaths in Delaware, found in 80% of accidental overdoses. Using fentanyl test strips can lower the risk of an overdose and save a life. Addiction is a disease and not a choice. It is important for individuals using drugs to know if fentanyl is present to potentially prevent an overdose.

What are fentanyl test strips?

Fentanyl test strips are a simple, inexpensive, and evidence-based method of testing products and substances to detect and alert an individual to the presence of fentanyl.

Where can I get fentanyl test strips?

Fentanyl test strips are included in some Narcan® kits distributed in the state of Delaware as a harm-reduction strategy aimed at averting accidental overdoses due to fentanyl consumption. Additionally, the Division of Public Health distributes 10-pack fentanyl test strip kits through the mail order program at nextdistro.com/delaware.

What drugs can be tested with the fentanyl test strips?

You can test marijuana, cocaine, meth, ecstasy, and others. Test strips are highly sensitive and will detect fentanyl down to 0.1 mcg/ml. A minimal amount of drug residue is sufficient to obtain a result; however, strips should not be used more than once.

Can the test tell you how much fentanyl there is?

Testing only tells you if fentanyl is present. It does NOT tell you how much fentanyl is present.

Can fentanyl test strips test for other opioids?

Fentanyl test strips only test for fentanyl, not other substances.

What do you do if fentanyl test strips detect fentanyl?

After a test strip detects fentanyl, an individual has a choice. They can choose not to use the drug based on the risk. However, if they choose to use, they can implement other harm-reduction strategies, like going slow, not using as much, and not using alone. They should also, have someone check on them, as well as have Narcan available and know how to use it.

Why are fentanyl test strips necessary?

Fentanyl can't be detected by sight, taste, smell, or touch. Harm-reduction experts are in favor of the strips, due to low cost and ease of use. Knowing if fentanyl is present can help the individual stay alive by taking precautionary steps, as mentioned above.

Are fentanyl test strips legal to possess?

Fentanyl test strips can be possessed and used by the public in Delaware. Laws may vary in other states.

WE HAVE THE RESOURCES TO HELP YOU.

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DELAWARE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
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