

DRUG SUPPLY NOTICE

There have been instances of accidental mix ups where powdered fentanyl is being sold as cocaine or methamphetamine (and vice-versa).

This is because the current fentanyl supply looks very similar to powdered cocaine and methamphetamine samples. Use fentanyl test strips for stimulants.

The illicit fentanyl supply in New Mexico has had significant variability in fentanyl concentration, with potency often differing substantially from one batch to the next.

These differences are typically not detectable through appearance alone, making it difficult for users to assess strength or overdose risk. Individuals using drugs that contain different concentrations of fentanyl than what they're used to can be dangerous. There is an increased risk for fatal and non-fatal overdose as well as more severe withdrawal symptoms.

Adulterants such as xylazine and medetomidine have also been found in illicit fentanyl samples.

The sedation caused by these substances is not affected by naloxone, however, it is encouraged to administer naloxone anytime an overdose is suspected as these substances are always found with fentanyl (not with other substances or alone). Naloxone will reverse the effects of fentanyl and restore breathing, but a person may still not wake up for a while and needs to be monitored. Fentanyl sold containing these adulterants is being labeled as "top shelf" or "high quality."

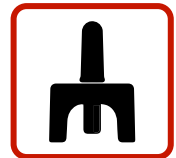
HARM REDUCTION TIPS



Bystanders who help in emergencies have legal protections.



Start slowly and use in small amounts at a time.



Always have naloxone nearby and know how to use it.



Avoid using multiple different substances at one time.



Get substances tested for adulterants confidentially and at no cost.



Have a trusted person nearby in case there is a medical emergency.

NMHarmReduction.org



Find Additional
Resources &
Adulterant Checking
Programs Near You

