

Fentanyl drug checking

FIRST TAKE 2 FENTANYL STRIPS OUT OF THE FRIDGE TO BRING TO ROOM TEMPERATURE.

The test has limitations. One should always take available harm reduction practices including always doing a test dose and carrying Naloxone

- A negative test does not rule out that the drug contains fentanyl. Fentanyl can be irregularly distributed in the substance (i.e. pill) and although the portion tested may not have fentanyl but the remaining substance may still contain fentanyl.
- The test is not 100% accurate, and was designed for urine testing, not drugs. The validity of fentanyl strips for drug checking is uncertain.
- A negative result does not guarantee that your next dose will be free of fentanyl, even if the drugs come from the same “batch” or the same dealer.
- The strips detect fentanyl and some fentanyl analogues but may not detect other analogues or other potentially harmful contaminants.”

Steps to check drugs:

- a) Fill a clean paper cup with 30 mL (1 ounce) of tap water
- b) Remove the test strip from the pouch
- c) Place only a grain of sample in water(too much can trip a false positive)
- d) Holding the strip from the solid blue end, dip the white end of the strip into the water up to the blue line (above the wavy blue lines) for at least 10-15 seconds (to avoid contamination, do not touch strip end with hands)
- e) After 10-15 seconds remove the test strip from the fluid and place on top of the package for the strip, watch time, and read results. They can be immediately, but it can take up to 5-minutes, but no later than 10-minutes

f) One color band = Positive Two color bands = Negative

The Staff will inform the result to the client:

If negative, it will be emphasised to the client that the dipstick only tests for fentanyl **Carfentanil, Acetyl Fentanyl, Butyryl Fentanyl, 3-Methylfentanyl, Ocfentanil, Sufentanil**. Therefore, **a negative result does not ensure that their drugs are not adulterated with other substances** which can be more toxic than Fentanyl .

Client response

feedback from the client will be sought, particularly whether this was an unexpected result. The following interventions will be offered: Option to dispose of the drug, Information on reducing harm (use a little, don't use alone), Take home naloxone kit and training