

What to Know About FENTANYL

Recognize. Respond. Reduce Harm.

FACTS



- Fentanyl is a synthetic or man-made opioid that is a leading cause of overdoses in New Jersey.
- It is 50× stronger than heroin and 100× stronger than morphine.
- Touching fentanyl will NOT cause an overdose, but if it gets into your body, it can be dangerous.

Effects on the Body

- Euphoria and pain relief.
- Sedation.
- Confusion.
- Nausea and vomiting.
- Slowed breathing.
- Constricted pupils.

TYPES



- Doctors prescribe pharmaceutical fentanyl to treat severe pain.
- Illicit fentanyl is made and sold as powder, liquid, or compressed tablets and is often mixed with other drugs without the user knowing.

Overdose Symptoms

- Choking, gurgling, or vomiting.
- Cold or clammy skin.
- Blue/grey/purple lips or fingertips.
- Irregular, labored, or slow breathing.
- Unable to stay awake or respond.

HOW IS IT USED?



- Orally by a pill or tablet
- Injected (in the vein or muscle)
- Snorted or sniffed
- Smoked
- Absorbed through skin via patches

In Case of Overdose

- Try to wake them and call 911 immediately.
- Begin rescue breathing.
- If unresponsive, administer naloxone (**Narcan**).
 - Wait 2-4 minutes, giving rescue breaths as needed; if still unresponsive, give a second dose of naloxone.

How to prevent an OVERDOSE

Use fentanyl testing strips.

Carry naloxone.

Space out usage and use slowly.

Call the SafeSpot national hotline at **1-800-972-0590** to speak with a trained peer operator, available 24/7.

Substance Use Prevention and Treatment Resources

Recognize Symptoms of an Overdose

- Person is unconscious or not waking up
- No response to shouting or rubbing knuckles on chest
- Person is not breathing or struggling to breathe
- Snoring, choking, or gurgling sounds
- Pinpoint or small pupils

Take Action

1. **Call 9-1-1**
2. **Give naloxone**
3. **Start rescue breathing**



What Is Naloxone and How to Get It

Naloxone (or Narcan®, a brand name for naloxone nasal spray) is a lifesaving drug that reverses the effects of an opioid overdose.



Call or text 1-877-4NARCAN for FREE naloxone, Fentanyl Test Strips and other harm reduction supplies to be mailed to you confidentially.



njharmreduction.org

Find Treatment



ReachNJ connects individuals who need counseling to live, trained addiction experts who answer the 24/7 hotline and get callers help, regardless of insurance status.

reachnj.gov



765-MATTERS
OR
mattersnetwork.org/nj



NALOXONE 365

NJ residents can obtain naloxone freely and anonymously from participating pharmacies.



nj.gov/humanservices/stopoverdoses

Education & Resources

Call 1-800-972-0590

Speak to a trained peer operator available 24/7 who has lived or living experience with substance use.



safe-spot.me