

Opioid Crisis



Opioids

Opioids are a class of drugs naturally found in the opium poppy plant and include synthetic opioids such as fentanyl and pain relievers available legally if prescribed.

DANGERS OF OPIOIDS

MISUSE

Taking them beyond original prescription

+

ABUSE

Taking them recreationally

=

Drug dependence

Negative health side effects

Overdose

Fentanyl

Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid that is 50 times stronger than heroin and 100 times stronger than morphine.

Illegally-made fentanyl is commonly mixed with other drugs and has been linked to the rise in overdose deaths.

Fentanyl test strips can detect fentanyl in all types of drugs. Test strips reduce the risk of an overdose when used.

Preventing Drug Abuse and Overdoses

- Improving safe opioid prescribing, reducing exposure to opioids, preventing misuse, and treating opioid use disorder help reduce opioid overdoses
- Always practice harm reduction strategies such as using fentanyl test strips and keeping Naloxone handy.