

## Let's Talk About Fentanyl

*Facts and conversation starters to help protect your kids*

1. Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid found in counterfeit drugs and fake prescription medications.

- True
- False

Answer: True. Fentanyl can be found in almost any counterfeit drug. Illegal drug makers also use fentanyl to create fake pills that look like real medication.

2. Why is fentanyl a current concern in the U.S.?

- A. It is causing a record number of drug overdose deaths
- B. It is a new drug

Answer: A. Illegal drugs made with fentanyl are flooding the United States, leading to a record number of overdose deaths. Fentanyl can be found in most counterfeit drugs.

3. Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid that can be detected through . . .

- A. Sight
- B. Smell
- C. Taste
- D. None of the above

Answer: D. Fentanyl is tasteless, odorless, and may be difficult to see with the naked eye. You can't tell if there's fentanyl in pills by looking at them.

4. How can people protect themselves from the dangers of fentanyl?

- A. Know about fentanyl
- B. Don't share medications
- C. Don't use drugs
- D. All of the above

Answer: D. Because fentanyl is so dangerous, the safest thing you can do is not use illicit drugs or take medications not prescribed to you.

5. A small amount of fentanyl can cause a deadly overdose. A lethal dose of fentanyl is so small it would ...

- A. Fill a sugar packet
- B. Fit on the tip of a pencil

Answer: B. Fentanyl is extremely powerful. An amount that would fit on the tip of a pencil can cause a deadly overdose.

6. Prescription pills purchased online, through social media, or from friends are often fakes made with fentanyl.

- A. True
- B. False

Answer: True. Drug dealers are making fake pills that look like real medications but are total fakes that contain fentanyl. It can be impossible to tell if a pill is real or fake by just looking at the pill.

7. Who regulates the quality control of the manufacture of illegal fentanyl?

- A. The FDA
- B. There is no quality control of illicit drug manufacturing

Answer: B. Illegal fentanyl is made by people who aren't scientists or chemists, and there is no quality control. One dose may not contain fentanyl, while another dose can contain a lethal amount.

8. Why is it important for families to create an "exit plan" in case a teen is offered drugs?
- A. It helps the teen get out of uncomfortable situations
  - B. It helps parents know how to support teens
  - C. Both of the above

Answer: C. An exit plan may include a code word that can be texted to parents. The parent will then call the teen and provide a reason the teen needs to be picked up immediately. This allows the teen to leave uncomfortable social situations without embarrassment.

9. What are the signs of a fentanyl overdose?
- A. Tiny pupils
  - B. Limp body
  - C. Breathing is very slow or has stopped
  - D. Pale, gray, or bluish skin, lips, or nails
  - E. Cold or clammy skin
  - F. Unable to talk
  - G. Extremely sleepy or passing out
  - H. Snoring, choking or gurgling sounds
  - I. Any of the above

Answer: I. Naloxone (Narcan) is a medication designed to reverse the effects of opioids like fentanyl or heroin. If someone shows signs of an overdose, it's important to take action right away. Call 911 and tell them the person is nonresponsive. If you have access to naloxone (Narcan) use it or give it to an adult to administer.

### **Conversation Starters**

*What have you heard about fentanyl?*

*Why do you think someone would risk taking drugs that contain fentanyl?*

*What could you do if a friend offered you one of their medications?*

*What could you do if you knew a friend was using medications not prescribed to them?*

*What is our exit plan if you find yourself in an uncomfortable situation?*

*Do you have any questions or concerns we haven't discussed yet?*