



Fentanyl Awareness

Over 100,000 overdoses each year link back to food contaminated with Fentanyl. Food, drinks and candies can be easily become lethally contaminated with just 2 mg of Fentanyl (the size of the tip of a pencil). And children are specifically being targeted with colored candies.

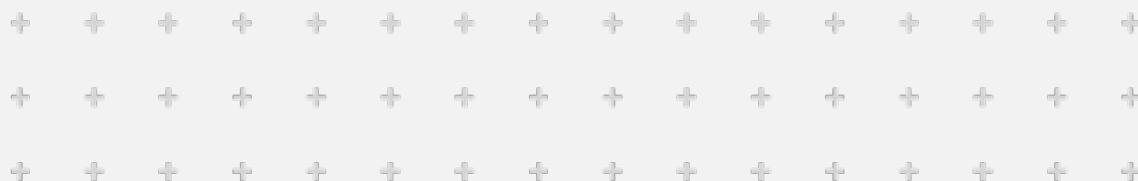
Unfortunately and unknowingly, hotel rooms are sometimes used by guests for the consumption or manufacture of illicit drugs. With the increased policing of improper use of prescription OxyContin, and when Heroin is not potent enough for the user, Fentanyl has become the next replacement illegal pain medication. Fentanyl is cheaper because it can be manufactured in a lab with concentrations that are 100 times more potent than morphine and 50 times more potent than Heroin. Therefore, the drug is often remixed and inserted into other formulas for sale and distribution, creating a hazardous environment in the room to be cleaned by the guest room attendant.



Any evidence of white or colored powders, unusual packaging or needles left in a room should be reported to a supervisor. Guestroom attendants are encouraged to use nitrile gloves for cleaning each room to prevent skin contamination and possible overdose. Food, drinks or even wrapped candies left by the guest, should not be consumed by any hotel staff for fear of a fatal overdose.

Rooms with drug or powder evidence should be treated like a hazardous material cleanup, and all needles (often hidden between mattresses and sofa cushions) should be handled with pliers or forceps and disposed in sharps containers.

Educate your children to not accept food or drinks from people they do not know and to test food and drink items with fentanyl test strips. Kits are readily available, and many parents of teenagers now have Narcan or Opvee in their homes, which can be administered to counteract a Fentanyl exposure.



Decision Point: What would you do if you observed...

OBSERVATION	ACTION
White or colored powder on countertop, table or furniture. Pills left on the counter or floor.	+ Report the room to your supervisor, executive housekeeper, or the GM, back out of the room and await a hazardous cleaning plan.
An unusual amount of plastic film, small Ziplock bags or stuffing material in the trash cans.	+ Report the room to your supervisor, executive housekeeper, or the GM, back out of the room and await a hazardous cleaning plan.
Food or drinks left in the refrigerator.	+ Put on Nitrile gloves and remove the food and place it in a trash bag. Do not eat or sample the food or drinks.
Wrapped candies or packaged bags of candy.	+ Put on Nitrile gloves, remove the candies, and place them in a dedicated red/BBP trash bag. Do not eat or sample the candy.
Needles in the trash can, needles in soda cans, or needles between the mattresses or sofa cushions.	+ Notify your supervisor or the Bloodborne Pathogens Team. Those trained in BBP will put on Nitrile gloves, get a pair of pliers or forceps from Engineering, and remove the needles and put them into a Sharps container.
An unusual amount of alcohol containers and food containers.	+ Report the room to your supervisor, executive housekeeper, or the GM, back out of the room and await a hazardous cleaning plan.
Visible damage to the walls or furniture.	+ Report the room to your supervisor, executive housekeeper, or the GM, back out of the room and await a hazardous cleaning plan.
Towels with blood or vomit.	+ Notify your supervisor or the Bloodborne Pathogens Team. Those trained in BBP will put on Nitrile gloves, gather the towels and put them in a red/BBP plastic bag.



THE FACTS ABOUT

FENTANYL

FENTANYL FACTS

Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid that is up to 50 times stronger than heroin and 100 times stronger than morphine. It is a major contributor to fatal and nonfatal overdoses in the U.S.¹

Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid that is up to

50x

stronger than heroin

100x

stronger than morphine

There are two types of fentanyl: pharmaceutical fentanyl and illicitly manufactured fentanyl. Both are considered synthetic opioids. Pharmaceutical fentanyl is prescribed by doctors to treat severe pain, especially after surgery and for advanced-stage cancer. However, most recent cases of fentanyl-related overdose are linked to illicitly manufactured fentanyl, which is distributed through illegal drug markets for its heroin-like effect. It is often added to other drugs because of its extreme potency, which makes drugs cheaper, more powerful, more addictive, and more dangerous.

ILLICITLY MANUFACTURED FENTANYL

Illicitly manufactured fentanyl (IMF) is available on the drug market in different forms, including liquid and powder¹. Fentanyl-laced drugs are extremely dangerous, and many people may be unaware that their drugs are laced with fentanyl.



Powdered fentanyl looks just like many other drugs. It is commonly mixed with drugs like heroin, cocaine, and methamphetamine and made into pills that are made to resemble other prescription opioids.



In its **liquid form**, IMF can be found in nasal sprays, eye drops, or dropped onto paper like small candies.

Street Names for Fentanyl

- Apache
- Dance Fever
- Friend
- Goodfellas
- Jackpot
- Murder 8
- Tango & Cash¹

DRUGS DO NOT COME WITH

AN INGREDIENTS LIST.

MANY CONTAIN DEADLY

DOSES OF FENTANYL.

FENTANYL AND OVERDOSE

Fentanyl and other synthetic opioids are the most common drugs involved in overdose deaths.¹ Even in small doses, it can be deadly.

150

Over 150 people die every day from overdoses related to synthetic opioids like fentanyl.²

Drugs may contain deadly levels of fentanyl, and you wouldn't be able to see it, taste it, or smell it. It is nearly impossible to tell if drugs have been laced with fentanyl unless you test your drugs with fentanyl testing strips. Testing strips are inexpensive, typically give results within 5 minutes, and can be the difference between life or death. Even if the test is negative, caution should be taken as test strips might not detect more potent fentanyl-like drugs, like carfentanil.³

SIGNS OF OVERDOSE

Recognizing the signs of opioid overdose can save a life. Here are some things to look for:

- Small, constricted "pinpoint pupils"
- Falling asleep or losing consciousness
- Slow, weak, or no breathing
- Choking or gurgling sounds
- Limp body
- Cold, clammy, and/or discolored skin

WHAT TO DO IF YOU THINK SOMEONE IS OVERDOSING

It may be hard to tell whether a person is high or experiencing an overdose. If you aren't sure, it's best to treat the situation like an overdose—you could save a life.

1

Call 911 immediately.*

2

Administer naloxone,** if available.

3

Try to keep the person awake and breathing.

4

Lay the person on their side to prevent choking.

5

Stay with them until emergency workers arrive.

1. Wilson N, Karissa M, Seth P, Smith H 4th, Davis NL. Drug and opioid-involved overdose deaths—United States, 2017–2018. *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep* 2020;69:290–2. 10.15585/mmwr.mm6911a4

2. NCHS. National Vital Statistics System. Estimates for 2020 are based on provisional data. Estimates for 2019–2019 are based on final data (available from: <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/vem/drugoverdose/data/20m1>).

3. Bergh, Marianne Skov-Skov et al. "Selectivity and sensitivity of urine fentanyl test strips to detect fentanyl analogues in illicit drugs." *The International journal on drug policy* vol. 90 (2021): <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.drugpo.2020.103085>

* Most states have laws that may protect a person who is overdosing or the person who called for help from legal trouble.

** Naloxone is a life-saving medication that can reverse the effects of opioid overdose and save lives. It is available in all 50 states and can be purchased from a local pharmacy without a prescription in most states.

