



Community
Drug Strategy



CARFENTANIL

What is Carfentanil?

Carfentanil is a synthetic opioid analgesic that is 100 times stronger than fentanyl. It is the most potent opioid known. Just a few granules is enough to trigger a fatal overdose. It was created in the 1970s as an elephant or large mammal tranquilizer.

The facts

- The plain chemical looks like table salt.
- It is more potent than morphine and fentanyl!
- It can be sold in several forms, including powder, blotter paper, tablets, and spray.
- It can be absorbed through the skin or inhaled.
- It can be added to other drugs in any form.
- Overdose symptoms include:
 - slowed breathing
 - drowsiness
 - disorientation
 - sleepiness
 - pinpoint pupils
 - clammy skin

The onset of these symptoms usually occurs within minutes of exposure.

Be safe

- Using opioids daily or occasionally can result in an elevated risk of overdose.
- Start with smaller amounts than usual.
- Use with other people, but NOT at the exact same time. Never use drugs alone.
- Have naloxone (NARCAN®) ready.
- An overdose occurs quickly.
 - Call 911.
 - Stay with the person until help arrives.



For more information, go to the Ontario Poison Centre website: www.ontariopoisoncentre.ca

Contact Réseau ACCESS Network or ask your pharmacist for a free naloxone kit.
www.ontario.ca/page/get-naloxone-kits-free



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