



**Fentanyl**

$C_{22}H_{28}N_2O$

**Facts**

Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid that is up to **50 times stronger than heroin** and **100 times stronger than morphine**. Even in small doses, it can be deadly.

Fentanyl acts quickly inside the body and this fast action can cause you to stop breathing much quicker than other drugs and therefore has a much greater chance of overdose.

Street names for fentanyl include Apache, Dance Fever, Friend, Goodfellas, Jackpot, Murder 8, and Tango & Cash.

More than **150 people die each day** from overdoses related to synthetic opioids like 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.



**Liquid fentanyl** can be found in nasal sprays, eye drops, or dropped onto paper like small candies.

#### Recognize the signs of opioid overdose:

- Small, constricted "pinpoint pupils"
- Falling asleep or losing consciousness
- Slow, weak, or no breathing
- Choking or gurgling sounds
- Limp arms and legs
- Cold and/or clammy skin
- Discolored skin (especially in lips and nails)

#### If you think someone is overdosing:

1. Call 9-1-1 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.

Source: The U.S. Centers For Disease Control and Protection (CDC)



**PUGET SOUND  
REGIONAL FIRE  
AUTHORITY**



### What is naloxone?

Naloxone is a medicine that rapidly reverses an opioid overdose. It attaches to opioid receptors and reverses and blocks the effects of other opioids. Naloxone can quickly restore normal breathing to a person if their breathing has slowed or stopped because of an opioid overdose. But, naloxone has no effect on someone who does not have opioids in their system, and it is not a treatment for opioid use disorder. When naloxone was first approved to reverse opioid overdoses, its brand name was “Narcan.” There are now other formulations and brand names.

### How is naloxone given?

Naloxone comes in two FDA-approved forms: injectable and prepackaged nasal spray. Naloxone should be given to any person who shows signs of an opioid overdose or when an overdose is suspected.

### Can I give naloxone to someone who has overdosed?

Yes. Families with loved ones who struggle with opioid addiction should have naloxone nearby; ask their family member to carry it; and let friends know where it is. Naloxone only works in the body for 30 to 90 minutes. It is possible for a person to still experience the effects of an overdose after naloxone wears off or need multiple doses if a potent opioid is in a person’s system. People should still call 9-1-1 immediately in the event of an overdose.

### Where can I get naloxone?

Many pharmacies carry naloxone. In some states, you can get naloxone from a pharmacist even if your doctor did not write you a prescription for it. It is also possible to get naloxone from community-based distribution programs, local public health groups, or local health departments, free of charge.

*Source: The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)*



**(253) 856-4398**

**Available 7 days a week  
8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.**

Puget Sound Fire’s FD CARES staff are available to provide guidance and resources to a juvenile and the family who are experiencing a substance use disorder with the underage child. They can provide support and education while the family and juvenile are navigating a difficult and confusing issue. One such resource, for all family members, is a petition for a Child in Need of Services (CHINS Petition). An adult or a child can make the petition. Please contact our FD CARES staff if someone needs connection to this resource.