

Posted Apr 20, 2021



Regional  
HIV/AIDS  
Connection

## WARNING

### “Increase in Overdoses Associated with Fentanyl”

Through **anecdotal reports** from members of the community there appears to be an increase in overdoses associated with Fentanyl potentially cut with benzo’s. We are seeing the following possible side effects:

- Unusually difficult to rouse, sleep-like state for hours post-use but not in overdose as **vital signs are stable**
- Significant confusion after waking up

In the Community, a person can present as not responding to stimulation after multiple doses of naloxone but is breathing and has a pulse. They appear to be in a deep sleep-like state. It is still important to **call 911**

Substances such as **fentanyl** can be cut (mixed) with other drugs. Even a very small amount can cause an overdose or other side effects.

#### **HARM REDUCTION RECOMMENDATIONS WHEN USING SUBSTANCES:**

- Try not to use alone
- If you use alone, tell someone where you are. Ask them to check on you
- Use in small doses
- Avoid mixing substances, if possible
- Encourage use of Carepoint 9am—9pm Mon—Sun

**Have Naloxone ready and know how to respond to an overdose**

Please continue to encourage everyone to carry a naloxone kit

For more information contact: Sonja Burke, Director of Harm Reduction Services,  
519.434.1601 ext. 244

Please remove this notice by May 4, 2021, as the illicit drug supply changes constantly.