

Fentanyl Toolkit for Service Providers June 15, 2020

FENTANYL IN OUR COMMUNITIES

Fentanyl continues to circulate in King County. Recent **increases in fentanyl-involved deaths** are a concerning trend. As of May 31, there were **nearly double the fatalities**, 70 in 2020, compared to 38 at this time in 2019, with several probable cases still pending. Public Health—Seattle & King County encourages providers to be aware of the risks and to share this information widely.

Locally, fentanyl is most commonly seen in fake pills made to look like oxycodone or Percocet. They are typically blue or green with a “M30” stamp. The amount of fentanyl within the same batch or even within a single pill can vary greatly, leading to greater risk. People may not even know a pill contains the deadly drug.

M30 pills

These are the most common pills containing fentanyl in our area.



V48 & A215 pills

These pills, although less common, may also contain fentanyl.



Powders

Fentanyl can also be found in white powders.



September 26, 2019

Public Health
Seattle & King County 

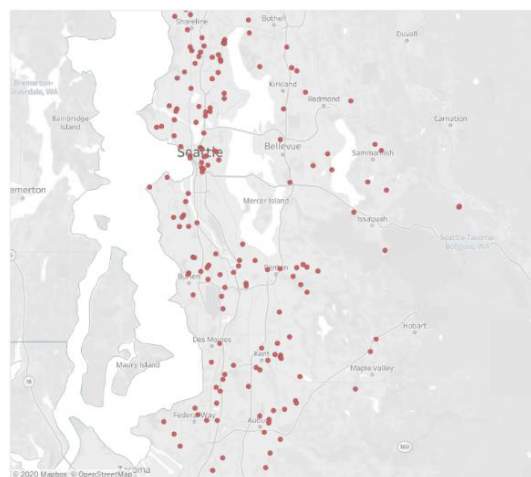
Fentanyl in KC is most commonly seen in counterfeit pills.

Fentanyl has also newly been found in black tar heroin in the county. Since late March, there have been three incidents, two of which were fatal overdoses. Until recently, the mix of fentanyl in black tar has not been seen in King County, but has [contributed to overdose deaths](#) in the Midwest and Eastern regions of the U.S. for several years. Learn more on our [Public Health Insider Blog](#).



Fentanyl deaths occur across King County.

Compared to other overdose deaths, fentanyl-involved overdoses more commonly occur among people who are younger, housed, male, and live outside the downtown Seattle corridor.



Fatal overdoses involving fentanyl from Jan 2019-May 2020.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- 1. Post educational materials.** Our fentanyl awareness materials (see page 2) can be printed or ordered for free at kingcounty.gov/overdose. Materials are available in 12 languages.
- 2. Order naloxone for your agency.** King County is currently offering injectable naloxone to community service providers to distribute to clients; kits can be ordered [here](#). Nasal naloxone kits are also available for on-site overdose response (not distribution), and can be ordered [here](#).
- 3. Sign up for email and text alerts** about overdose and changes in the drug supply.
- 4. Stay up-to-date on data** with our [fatal](#) and [nonfatal](#) overdose dashboards.

5. Share these key messages with clients:

- Any amount of fentanyl can be fatal.
- Any pill that is not prescribed to you may be counterfeit and contain fentanyl. Fentanyl may also be in white powder and black tar.
- Avoid using drugs alone. If this is not an option, have someone check on you regularly or use a service like neverusealone.com.
- Have naloxone ready. You can get naloxone at pharmacies or needle exchanges. Find naloxone near you at stopoverdose.org.
- If you suspect an overdose, call 911 right away. The [Good Samaritan Law](#) protects you and the person overdosing from drug possession charges.
- Methadone and buprenorphine are effective medications to treat opioid use disorder. Starting medication is now easier than ever. Currently, you can connect with a buprenorphine provider via phone or online. Call the [WA Recovery Helpline](#) at 1-866-789-1511 to get started.

6. Access all of these resources and more at kingcounty.gov/overdose.

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