

Opioids

Prescription Opioids

Heroin

Fentanyl

Definition

- What is an Opioid?
- Opioids are drugs that act on the nervous system to relieve pain. Continued use and abuse can lead to physical dependence and withdrawal symptoms.
- An Overdose of Opioids can cause death

Pathway to Addiction

- Some people who are prescribed Opioids for medical reasons can become addicted with as little as one prescription.
- This is called “Accidental Addiction”
- This happens when a person takes a legally prescribed opioid for a legitimate reason and ends up becoming addicted to opioids

Pathway to Addiction

- Another issue is when someone abuses opioids for recreational purposes and becomes addicted.
 - This can happen with the first use of opioids
- When someone takes opioids for a period of time, they build up tolerance to the drug, which requires taking more of the drug to get the same effect.
- Tolerance to opioids can lead to addiction.

Pathway to Addiction

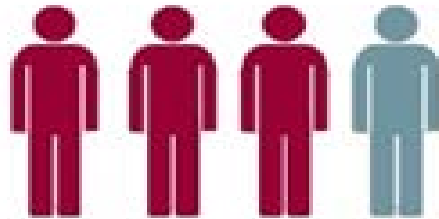
- When someone becomes addicted to opioids, they need to use the drug to “feel normal”
- If they don’t take the drug on a regular basis, they can go through withdrawal
- Withdrawal is described as being very painful, both physically and psychologically. A person might do anything to avoid going through withdrawal

Prescription Opioids

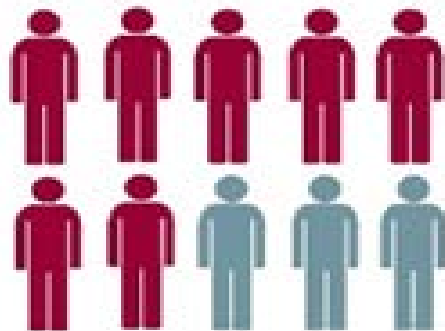
- Some of the most sought after street drugs
- OxyContin and other strong opioids can go for \$30 or more per pill on the street
- Doctors overprescribing prescription opioids has led to some patients becoming addicted to opioids

Prescription Opioids

Prescription opioid misuse is a major risk factor for heroin use



3 out of 4 people
who used heroin in the
past year misused
opioids first



7 out of 10 people
who used heroin in the
past year also misused
opioids in the past year

Prescription Opioids

- Many people store unused opioids in their medicine cabinets and save them “just in case”
- People who abuse prescription opioids typically get them from family and friends
- To avoid these powerful drugs from getting into the wrong hands, it’s important to secure these drugs or properly dispose of them
 - Many police departments or pharmacies will take unwanted prescription drugs and properly dispose of them

Prescription Opioids

- The latest trend is the manufacturing of lookalike prescription drugs
- Dealers are manufacturing drugs to look like prescription medications
- Sometimes these fake medications contain Fentanyl, which is attributed to overdose deaths

Prescription Opioids

- The important thing for drug abusers to remember is that there is no guarantee that what they are buying from the “street” is actually a pharmaceutical grade drug
- It’s a complete roll of the dice...

Counterfeit Opioids

- Counterfeit Oxycodone Pills Containing U-47700.



Heroin

- Heroin is an opioid that is made from the resin of poppy plants.
- Heroin can come in many different colors and forms
- Most heroin abusers start ingesting the drug by snorting it
- Almost all heroin abusers end up using a syringe and injecting it
 - Shared needles increase the potential for HIV and Hepatitis C

Heroin

- **Drug poisoning/overdose deaths have become the leading cause of injury death in the United States**
 - **More than shootings and car crashes combined**
- Each day in the U.S. over ***175 people die*** as a result of a drug poisoning/overdose

Heroin



Heroin



Heroin



Heroin Paraphernalia



Heroin Paraphernalia



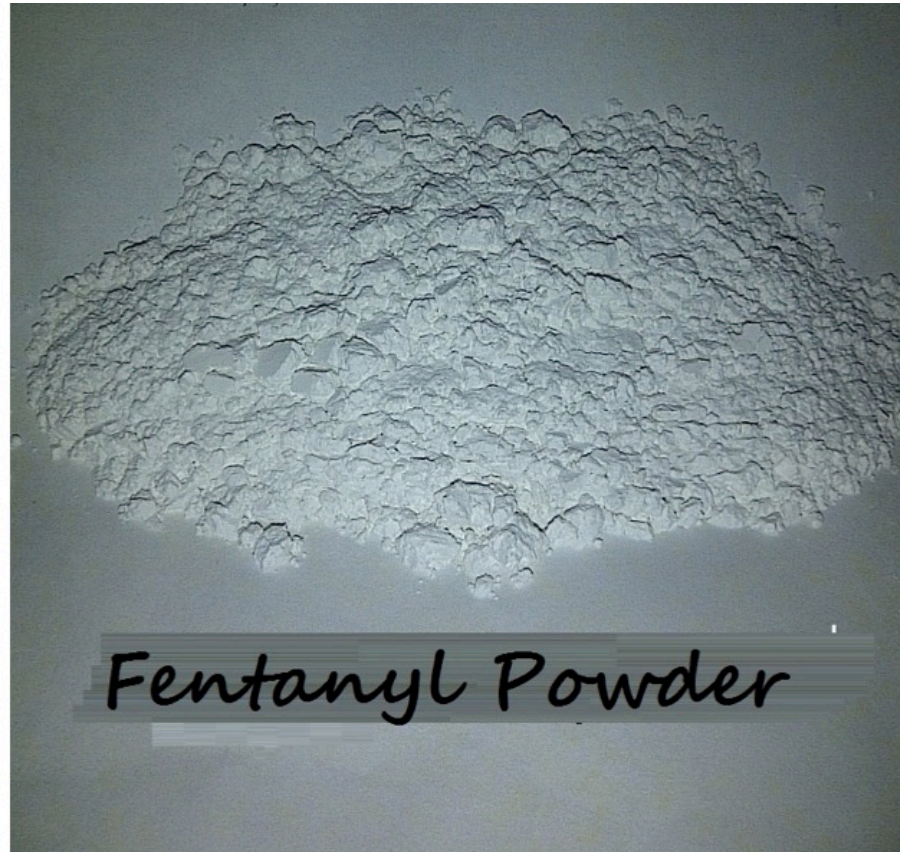
Fentanyl

- Fentanyl is a Schedule II synthetic opioid that is approximately 100 times stronger than morphine, and was developed for the pain management and treatment of cancer patients
- Deaths related to fentanyl have significantly increased over the last few years
- Clandestinely produced fentanyl is sometimes added to heroin to increase its effects, or mixed/diluted and sold as heroin
- 100-150 Micrograms of Fentanyl is enough to overdose and kill a person

Fentanyl



Fentanyl



Fentanyl Packaging



Carfentanil

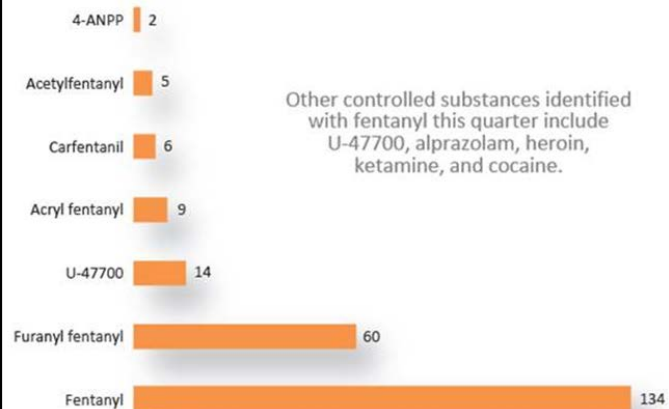
- Carfentanil is a synthetic opioid used as a large animal anesthetic
- DEA released a bulletin warning First Responders about Carfentanil
- It is 100 more times powerful than Fentanyl
- It has been found in the Cincinnati, Ohio area and is responsible for an even bigger spike in overdose deaths

Overdose Amounts



OPIOIDS/ ANALGESICS

THERE WERE **230** IDENTIFICATIONS OF FENTANYL, FENTANYL-RELATED SUBSTANCES, AND OTHER SYNTHETIC OPIOIDS. FENTANYL ACCOUNTED FOR APPROXIMATELY **58%** OF THE IDENTIFICATIONS. THE NEXT MOST PROMINENT FENTANYL-RELATED SUBSTANCE, FURANYL FENTANYL, ACCOUNTED FOR **26%** OF THE IDENTIFICATIONS. NO NEW OPIOIDS WERE IDENTIFIED THIS QUARTER. OF THE 134 FENTANYL IDENTIFICATIONS, FENTANYL WAS FOUND AS THE ONLY CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE IN APPROX. **28%** OF THE IDENTIFICATIONS AND WAS FOUND IN COMBINATION WITH HEROIN IN APPROX. **61%** OF THE IDENTIFICATIONS.



Mixture with Other Drugs

- Narcotics Units are finding that Drug Dealers are mixing heroin and/or fentanyl in with other drugs to increase the effects
 - Heroin/Fentanyl & Meth
 - Heroin/Fentanyl & Cocaine
 - Heroin/Fentanyl & Marijuana
 - Heroin/Fentanyl & “Spice”

Mixture with Other Drugs

- This is the risk with buying drugs from “The Street”
- There is no guarantee from the dealer that what a person is buying is what they are actually getting
- People have overdosed and died from using a drug that turned out to be laced with heroin/fentanyl