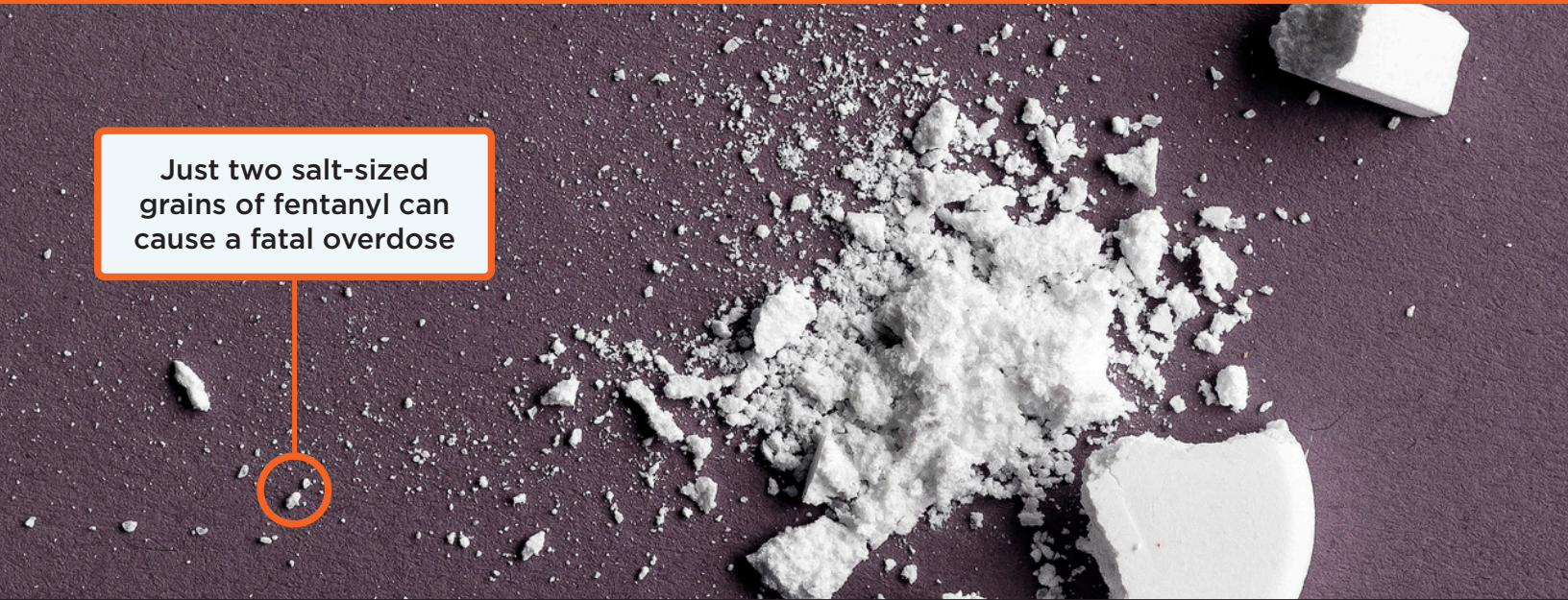


COUNTERFEIT PILLS: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

One single pill, or even half of a pill, could be deadly



Just two salt-sized grains of fentanyl can cause a fatal overdose

YOU CANNOT SEE, SMELL OR TASTE FENTANYL WHEN MIXED WITH OTHER DRUGS

What are Counterfeit Pills?

Counterfeit pills are fake medications that have different ingredients and composition than the actual medicinal ingredients. Fake pills may contain no active ingredient, the wrong active ingredient or have the right ingredient but the wrong amount. Counterfeit pills may **contain deadly amounts of fentanyl and/or fentanyl analogues.**

This is especially dangerous as people are often unaware that fentanyl has been added.

This creates the potential for a fatal poisoning.

Counterfeit pills are made to look like real prescription pills such as oxycodone

(Oxycontin, Percocet), hydrocodone (Vicodin), and alprazolam (Xanax); or stimulants like amphetamines (Adderall).

The only safe medications are ones that are prescribed by and come from a licenced medical professional.

Pills purchased through social media or bought online are **not real**. These pills are unregulated, dangerous and potentially deadly.



COUNTERFEIT PILLS: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

What is Fentanyl?

Fentanyl is a powerful synthetic opioid that can be used as a pain relief medication for patients with severe pain, under the supervision of a medical professional. Fentanyl is up to 40 times stronger than heroin and 100 times stronger than morphine.

Prescription Fentanyl vs Unregulated Fentanyl

Prescription fentanyl is prescribed and can only be obtained from a **licensed physician** or **pharmacy**.

Unregulated fentanyl is made and distributed through unregulated drug markets with **no quality control** and is much more potent than prescription fentanyl. Also of concern are fentanyl analogues. Fentanyl analogues (e.g., carfentanil) are like fentanyl but have a slightly different chemical make-up. Fentanyl analogues can be unregulated, more potent than fentanyl and are potentially fatal.

Signs of an Opioid Overdose/Poisoning



Small, constricted 'pinpoint' pupils



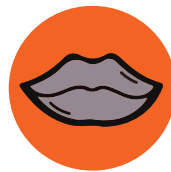
Falling asleep or loss of consciousness



Choking or gurgling sounds



Limp body



Fingernails/lips are blue, purple or grey



Slow, weak or no breathing



Slow, weak or no pulse

Responding to an Overdose/Poisoning

1. Shout their name and shake shoulders
2. Call 911 immediately if unresponsive
3. Administer naloxone
4. Perform rescue breathing/chest compressions
5. If no improvement after 2-3 mins, repeat steps 3 and 4



Naloxone is the antidote to opioids and is a life-saving medication. You can get naloxone for free from your local pharmacy or public health unit.

The Good Samaritan Drug Overdose Act

This act provides some legal protection for individuals who seek emergency help during an overdose. The act can protect you from charges for simple possession of a controlled substance.

