

Fentanyl is a highly toxic synthetic opioid used to treat severe pain. The risk of accidental overdose from Fentanyl is higher than risk of overdose from other highly toxic substances (e.g. Heroin or morphine). Although Fentanyl is often prescribed by a physician, it can also be produced and sold illegally. Illicit Fentanyl is often mixed with other drugs [1].

## Fentanyl and other synthetic opioids like Norfentanyl are the most common drugs involved in overdose deaths in the United States [2].



**68%**

of overdose deaths from 2019 -2022 in Pueblo County were associated with Opioid use and

**42%**

of those deaths were linked to Fentanyl [3].



### 19% of Overdose Deaths

Involving **one drug** in Pueblo County from 2019 - 2022 were associated with Fentanyl and Norfentanyl [3].

### 32% of Overdose Deaths

Involving **two drugs** in Pueblo County from 2019 - 2022 were associated with Fentanyl and Norfentanyl [3].

### 48% of Overdose Deaths

In Pueblo County from 2019- 2022 were associated with **more than one drug** [3].

Responding to substance use emergencies places **high demand** on local healthcare agencies [3].



### Fentanyl Test Strips

**FTS** are a low-cost method to:

1. Prevent drug overdose and reduce harm.
2. Detect the presence of Fentanyl in a variety of drugs including pills, powders, and injectables.
3. Provide necessary information about fentanyl in the illicit drug supply.
4. Equip individuals to reduce the risk of overdose [4].

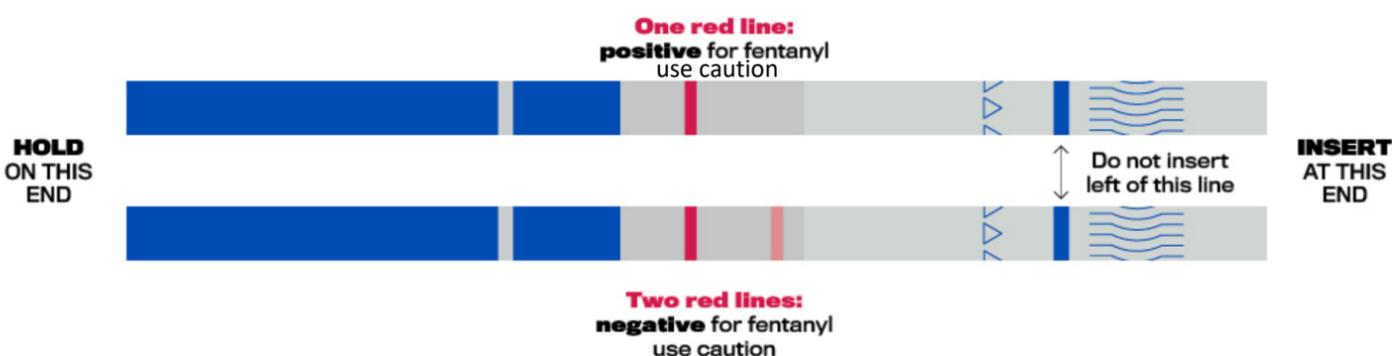
### Deadly Levels of Fentanyl

Can be present in drugs without you knowing.

- **FTS** are the only way to tell if a drug has been laced with Fentanyl.
- **FTS** give results in 5 minutes [4].

**Even if a test is negative, be cautious. FTS may not always detect potent synthetic drugs [4].**

Look for local organizations in Pueblo County that distribute FTS.



### If You Think Someone Is Experiencing An Overdose

1. Call 911
2. Administer Naloxone, if available
3. Try to keep them awake and breathing
4. Lay them on their side to prevent choking
5. Stay with them until emergency services arrive [4]



### REFERENCES

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (n.d.). Fentanyl Facts. <https://www.cdc.gov/stopoverdose/fentanyl/index.html>
2. Pueblo Department of Public Health and Environment (n.d.). Opioid Education & Awareness for Community Members. <https://county.pueblo.org/public-health-department/opioid-education-awareness-community-members>
3. Pueblo County Department of Public Health and Environment (2022). Substance Use Data. Retrieved from [https://county.pueblo.org/public-health-department/substance-use-data-pueblo-county\\*](https://county.pueblo.org/public-health-department/substance-use-data-pueblo-county*)
4. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (n.d.). Fentanyl Test Strips: A Harm Reduction Strategy. Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/stopoverdose/fentanyl/fentanyl-test-strips.html>