

# WHAT IS FENTANYL?

**MAY 7** NATIONAL  
**FENTANYL**  
**AWARENESS**  
**DAY**

## EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW

**Fentanyl is a potent synthetic opioid.** There are two types: medical fentanyl and illicitly manufactured fentanyl. Illicitly manufactured fentanyl is permeating the street drug supply and is now a major contributor to overdoses and deaths in the U.S.

### Fentanyl is a potent synthetic opioid:

#### POTENT

Up to 50x stronger than heroin and 100x stronger than morphine. A few grains of sand worth can be lethal.

#### SYNTHETIC

Not plant-based.  
Made in a lab.

#### OPIOID

Pain reliever like oxycodone, morphine and heroin.

### TYPES OF FENTANYL Medical vs. Illicitly Manufactured

MEDICAL	ILLICITLY MANUFACTURED
Made in a sterile factory	Made in unsanitary conditions
Carefully blended	Sloppy mixing
Dose is precise and consistent	Dose is random and variable
Carefully administered by doctors	Hidden in the drug supply
Legitimate medical uses	Increases drug dealer profits

### Why Should I Care?

Illicitly manufactured fentanyl is driving the recent increase in U.S. drug overdoses. Dealers are mixing it with, and disguising it as, other common drugs like Oxy, Percocet, Adderall and Xanax to increase profits. This process is not regulated and does not undergo any quality control – and as little as two milligrams of fentanyl (two grains of sand) is lethal.

### What Can I Do To Help?

Spread the word on **Tuesday May 7, 2024** Learn more about how to protect yourself & your loved ones at [fentanylawarenessday.org](https://fentanylawarenessday.org).



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[fentanylawarenessday.org](https://fentanylawarenessday.org)