Separating Fact from Fiction

Kirk Cumpston, DO

Medical Director of the Virginia Poison Center

1/24/20



Objectives

- Recognize how each substance behaves in the body
 - Fentanyl
 - Kratom
 - Methamphetamine
- Contrast facts versus fiction cases
- Recognize the difference between customary use of therapeutic fentanyl and misuse or abuse of the fentanyl
- Describe the trends of drug usage at Virginia Poison Center
- Describe the proposed indications for Kratom and the current landscape of use
- Recognize the potential risks for Kratom use

Fact or Fiction?

- The source of abused fentanyl is pharmaceutical grade.
- Fentanyl will NOT be detected on routine urine drug screen.
- Fentanyl comes in all shapes and sizes and can mimic other drugs.
- Fentanyl kills as many people heroin.
- Powdered synthetic fentanyl, like carfentinil, will NOT kill you if it is present in the room or touches your skin.
- You should wear protective equipment and decontaminate any fentanyl skin exposure.

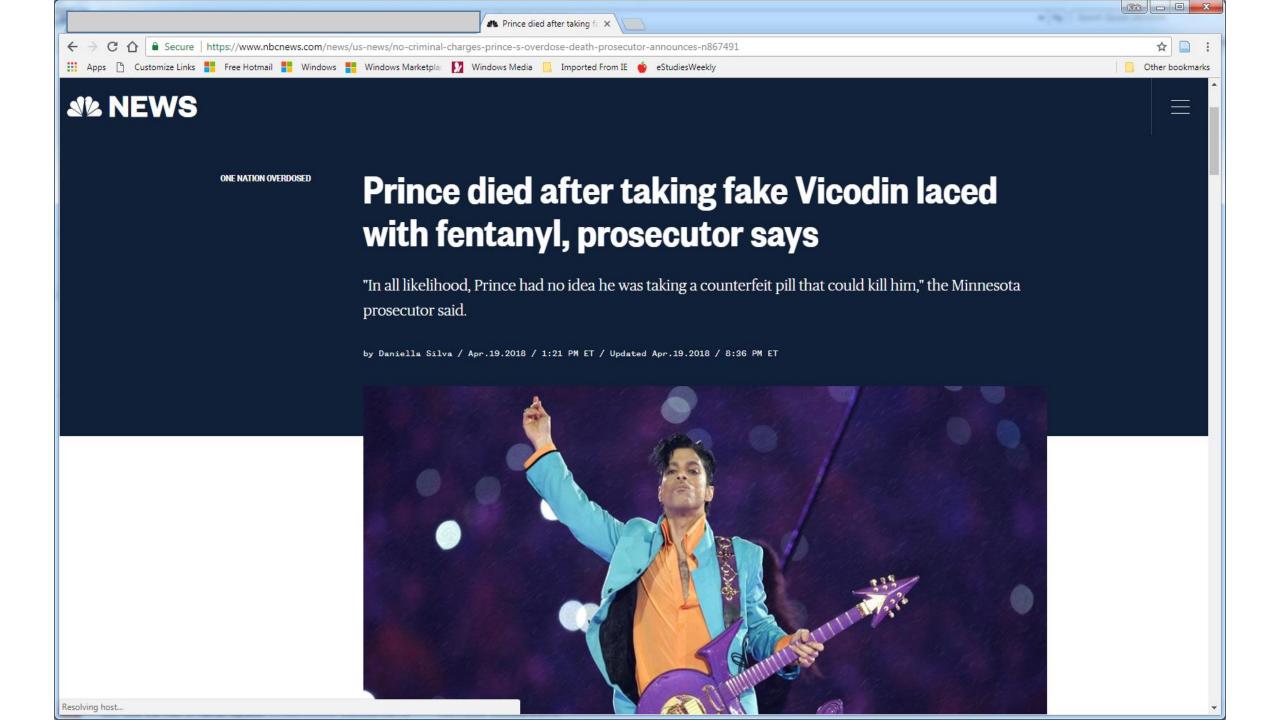
- Kratom kills less people than heroin.
- Kratom will NOT cause life-threatening effects.
- Kratom can lead to addiction and withdrawal.
- Kratom has been tested to make sure it works and it is safe.
- Methamphetamines counteract the effect of opioids.
- The use of methamphetamines with opioids leads to more overdoses.
- If you live in the Eastern US don't worry about methamphetamine.

Fentanyl – What is it good for?

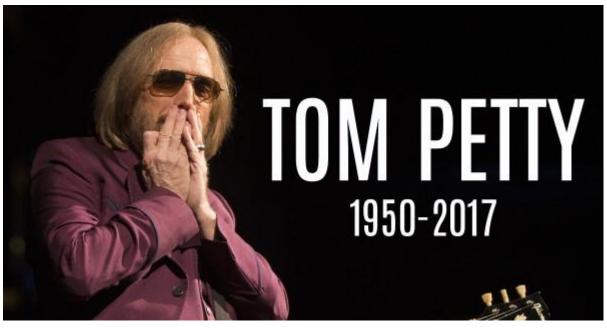


2019 VPC Fentanyl cases

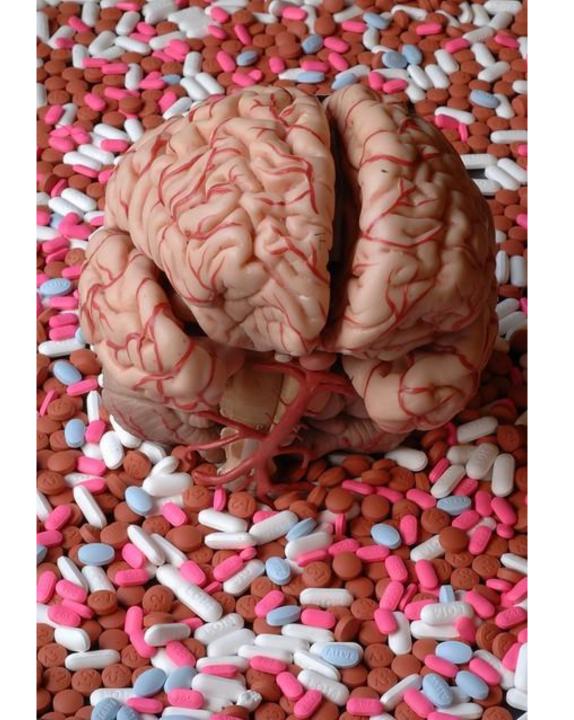
- 9 cases
- 5 Police/EMS
- 7 Discharged
- 2 Admitted
- 1 Critical care

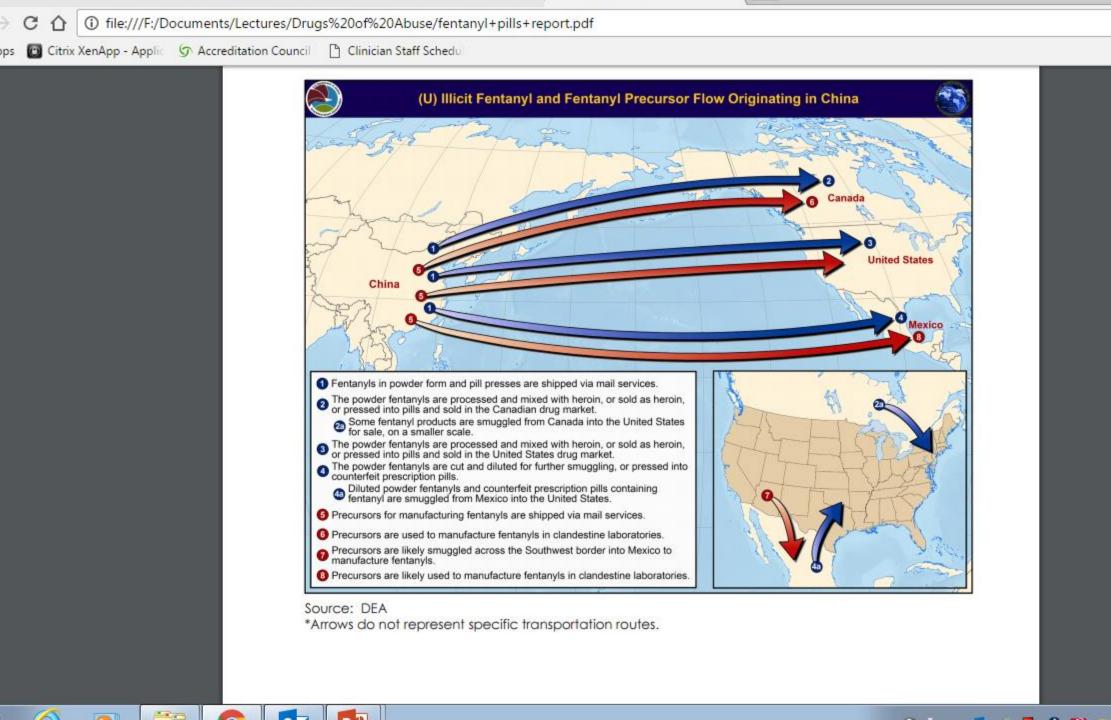




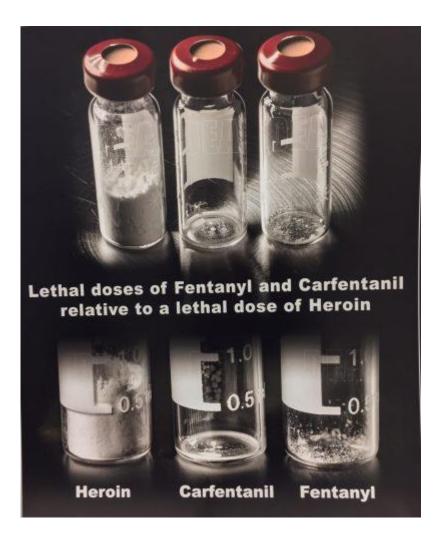


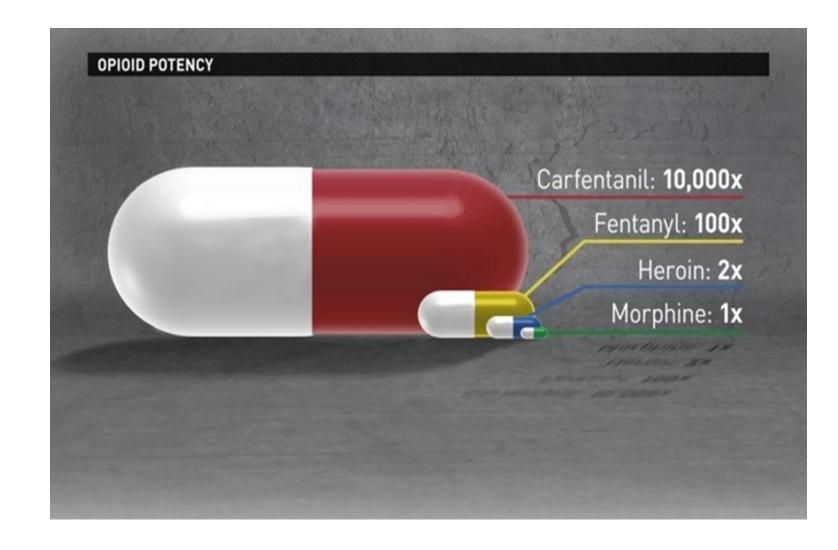
Pentanyl
Despropionyl fentanyl
Acetyl fentanyl
Oxycodone
Temazepam
Alprazolam
Citalopram





1:05

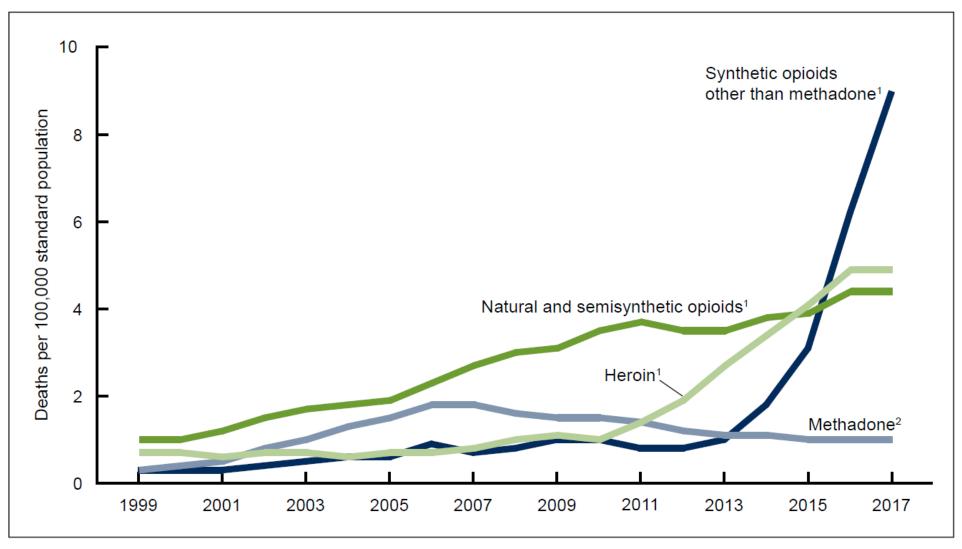




Courtesy DEA



Figure 4. Age-adjusted drug overdose death rates, by opioid category: United States, 1999-2017

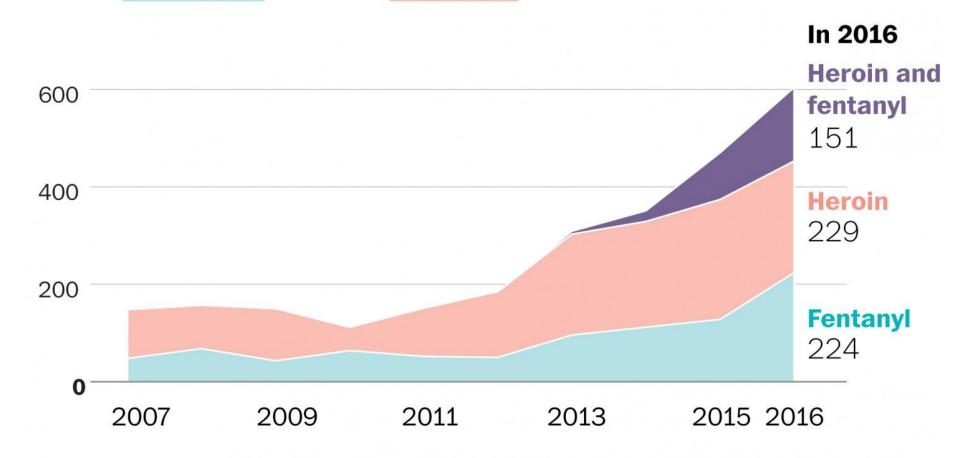


¹Significant increasing trend from 1999 through 2017 with different rates of change over time, p < 0.05.

NOTES: Deaths are classified using the *International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision*. Drug-poisoning (overdose) deaths are identified using underlying cause-of-death codes X40–X44, X60–X64, X85, and Y10–Y14. Drug overdose deaths involving selected drug categories are identified by specific multiple-cause-of-death codes: heroin, T40.1; natural and semisynthetic opioids, T40.2; methadone, T40.3; and synthetic opioids other than methadone, T40.4. Deaths involving more than one opioid category (e.g., a death involving both methadone and a natural and semisynthetic opioid) are counted in both categories. The percentage of drug overdose deaths that identified the specific drugs involved varied by year, with ranges of 75%–79% from 1999 through 2013 and 81%–88% from 2014 through 2017. Access data table for Figure 4 at: https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/databriefs/db329_tables-508.pdf#4. SOURCE: NCHS, National Vital Statistics System, Mortality.

²Significant increasing trend from 1999 through 2006, then decreasing trend from 2006 through 2017, p < 0.05.

Fatal fentanyl and/or heroin overdoses in Virginia



Data for 2016 is a predicted total for the entire year

Source: Virginia Department of Health

THE WASHINGTON POST

"Gray Death"

- Combination
 - Heroin
 - Fentanyl
 - U-47700
 - \$10-20 on street



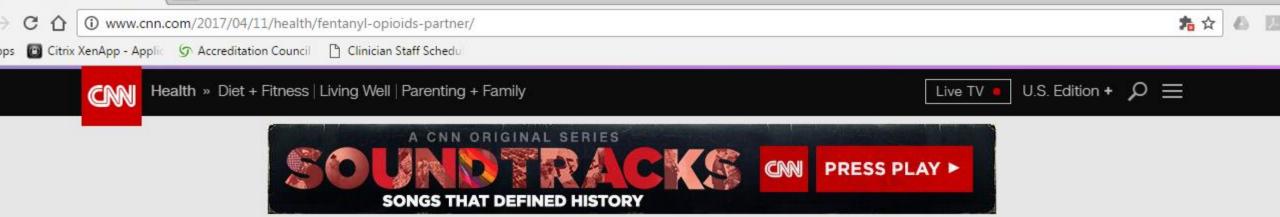






7.5x morphine.





Deadly fentanyl changes the rules for those who abuse opioids

By Martha Bebinger, WBUR

Updated 9:22 AM ET, Tue April 11, 2017

















Spotify executive killed in Stockholm attack



Bubba Watson apologizes for 'joke'

REAL Roxicodone

COUNTERFEIT pill









Can you distinguish the real from the fake? Image of counterfeit and authentic Norco tablets, side by side. Image courtesy of California Poison Control.



(U)//LES

June 26, 2017 IB 2017-0107

Police Information- Carfentanil in Tablets









CLINICAL RESEARCH



Self-identification of nonpharmaceutical fentanyl exposure following heroin overdose

Matthew K. Griswold^a, Peter R. Chai^b, Alex J. Krotulski^c, Melissa Friscia^c, Brittany Chapman^a, Edward W. Boyer^b, Barry K. Logan^{c,d} and Kavita M. Babu^a

^aDivision of Medical Toxicology, Department of Emergency Medicine, University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, MA, USA;
 ^bDivision of Medical Toxicology, Department of Emergency Medicine, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, USA;
 ^cThe Center for Forensic Science Research and Education (CFSRE), Willow Grove, PA, USA;
 ^dNMS Labs, Willow Grove, PA, USA

Table 4. Self-identification of nonpharmaceutical fentanyl exposure versus urine drug testing results.

| | Urine drug testing for fentanyl | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------|
| | Positive | Negative |
| Self-Report of Fentanyl Exposure | | |
| Yes | 16 | 0 |
| No | 13 | 1 |

Sensitivity 55%, Cohen's kappa index value 0.76.

Vancouver Testimonials

- "It tastes like vinegar."
- "Always do test shots of small doses."
- "With heroin you feel it coming, you feel the intensity."
- "Fentanyl, you're sitting there waiting for something and, the next thing you know, there is an ambulance attendant there. It hits you like a Mack truck."
- Rigidity
- Multiple doses of naloxone



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Drug and Alcohol Dependence



journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/drugalcdep

Characterizing fentanyl-related overdoses and implications for overdose response: Findings from a rapid ethnographic study in Vancouver, Canada



Samara Mayer^a, Jade Boyd^{a,b}, Alexandra Collins^{a,c}, Mary Clare Kennedy^{a,d}, Nadia Fairbairn^{a,b}, Rvan McNeil^{a,b,*}

- British Columbia Centre on Substance Use, Level 4, 1045 Howe Street, Vancouver, BC, V6Z 2A9, Canada British Columbia
- ^o Department of Medicine, University of British Columbia, St. Paul's Hospital, 608-1081 Burrard Street, Vancouver, BC, V6Z 1Y6, Canada
- ^c Faculty of Health Sciences, Simon Fraser University, 8888 University Drive, Burnaby, BC, V5A 1S6, Canada



Fentanyl-Contaminated Nonfatal OD

Park et al. Harm Reduction Journal (2018) 15:34 https://doi.org/10.1186/s12954-018-0240-z

Harm Reduction Journal

- 45-54 year olds
- Non-Hispanic Black
- 12 grade or GED
- Own or rent/homeless
- 53% perceived fentanyl
- 93% used heroin last 6 months
- 90% witnessed OD
- 44% used naloxone 99% successful

RESEARCH

Open Access



Fentanyl-contaminated drugs and non-fatal overdose among people who inject drugs in Baltimore, MD

Ju Nyeong Park^{1,2*}, Brian W. Weir¹, Sean T. Allen¹, Patrick Chaulk^{3,4,5} and Susan G. Sherman^{1,2}

Public Safety

Elephant tranquilizer is the latest lethal addition to the heroin epidemic



Members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police go through a decontamination procedure in Vancouver, British Columbia, in June 2016 after intercepting a package containing approximately one kilogram (2.2 pounds) of the opioid carfentanil imported from China. (Royal Canadian Mounted Police via AP/AP)









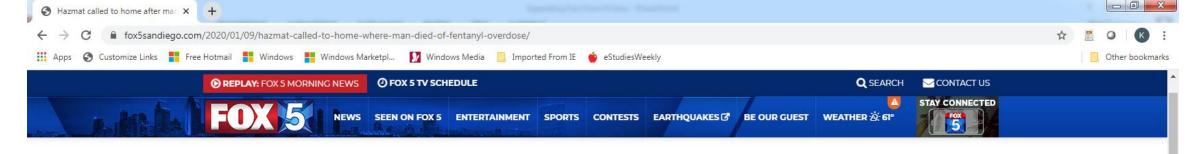






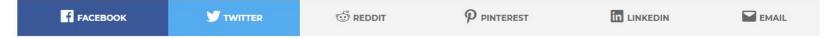






Hazmat called to home after man dies of fentanyl overdose

POSTED 11:20 AM, JANUARY 9, 2020, BY MATT MEYER, UPDATED AT 01:10PM, JANUARY 9, 2020



SAN DIEGO — A Hazmat team was called and a firefighter was sent to the hospital after a man died of a fentanyl overdose at a northern San Diego home Thursday morning.

The 27-year-old man overdosed at the house in Rancho Bernardo, a few blocks north of Rancho Bernardo Road on Calenda Road. around 4 a.m.



A police officer stands nearby as a Hazmat team makes sure it's safe to investigate a home where a man overdosed on fentanyl Thursday. (Photo: OnSceneTV)

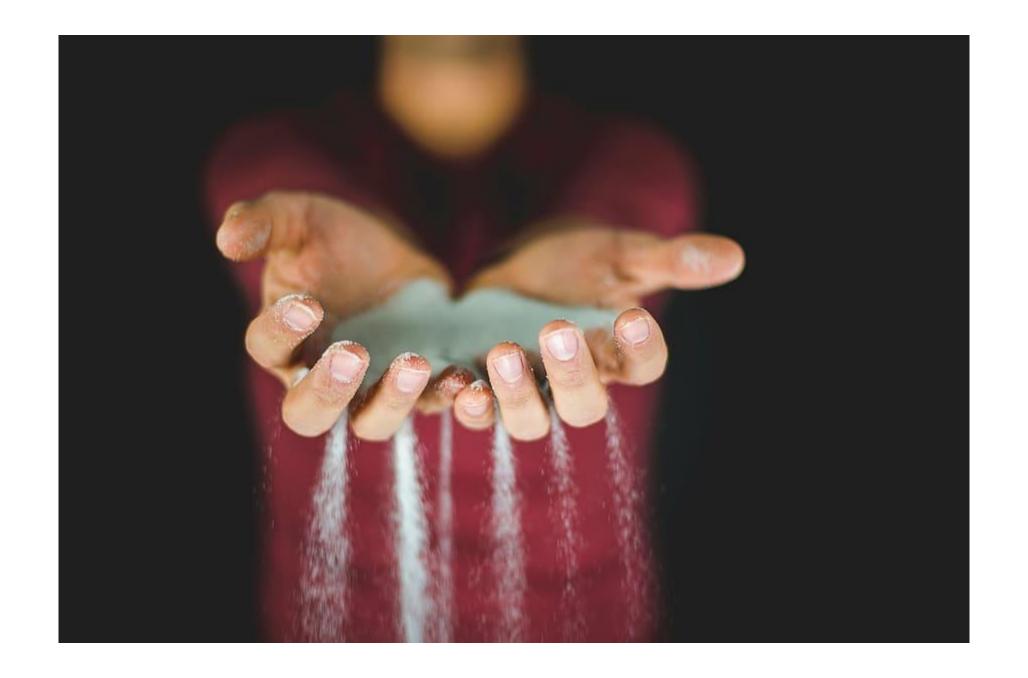
When authorities found fentanyl, a synthetic opioid the DEA says is 80 to 100 times stronger than morphine, they called a Hazmat team.

Authorities were seen leading a woman out of the home in handcuffs, though police did not comment on whether she was suspected of a crime. While police spoke with the woman and officials wheeled the man's body out of the home, the Hazmat team worked to ensure no one else was exposed to the drug.









Fentanyl case

- 34 year-old male deputy arrived about 1 hour ago following exposure to heroin and fentanyl.
- He pulled a vehicle over, found a powder substance in the car.
- Was wearing gloves, but as he was transferring powder to the test kit, apparently inhaled some.
- Powder tested positive for both heroin and fentanyl.
- Pt is complaining of dizziness, headache, and nausea.
- He has been decontaminated well.
- He is awake and alert.
- Vital signs are normal.



POSITION STATEMENT



ACMT and AACT position statement: preventing occupational fentanyl and fentanyl analog exposure to emergency responders

Michael J. Moss^a (D), Brandon J. Warrick^b, Lewis S. Nelson^c, Charles A. McKay^d, Pierre-André Dubé^e (D), Sophie Gosselin^f (D), Robert B. Palmer^g and Andrew I. Stolbach^h

^aEmergency Medicine, VCU Medical Center, Richmond, VA, USA; ^bEmergency Medicine, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM, USA; ^cDepartment of Emergency Medicine, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School, Newark, NJ; ^dTraumatology & Emergency Medicine, Hartford Hospital, Hartford, CT, USA; ^eInstitut national de santé publique du Québec, Québec, Canada; ^fCentre Antipoison du Québec, Québec, Canada; ^gToxicology Associates, PLLC, Littleton, CO, USA; ^hJohns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD, USA

PPE for Occupational Fentanyl Exposure



Occupational Fentanyl Exposure: Decontamination/Treatment

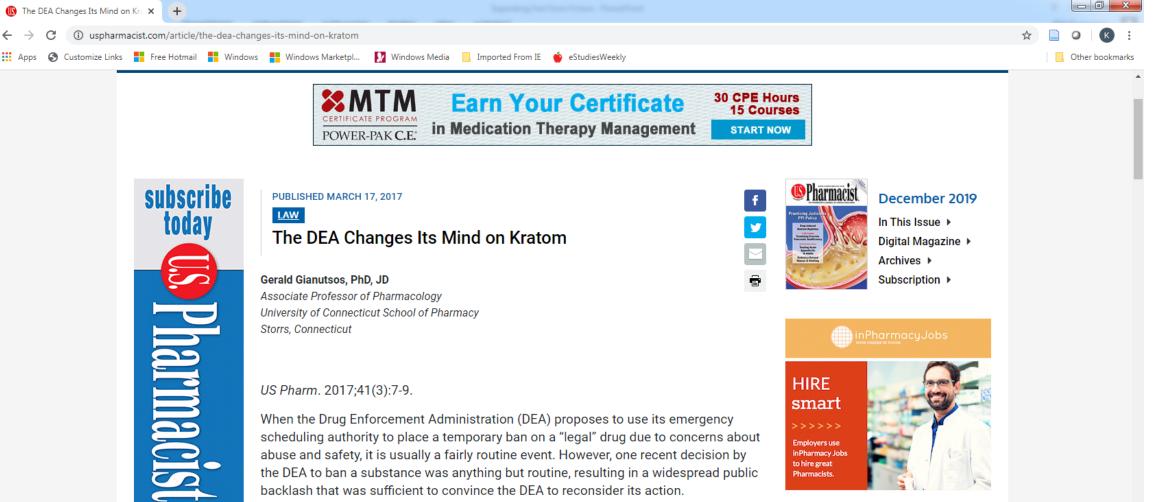






2019 VPC Kratom Cases

- 20
- Polysubstance 2
- Critical care 3
- Admission 9
- Discharged 8
- Withdrawal 2
- Treating heroin addiction 1
- Naloxone 1
- Home 2 (2 year old)
- Death 1



The substance causing the controversy is the herbal opioid-like drug *kratom*. In August 2016, the DEA announced that it would temporarily reclassify kratom as a Schedule I drug. This action brought about a strong reaction, including public demonstrations, petitions, and calls by Congress to overrule the decision. These events resulted in the DEA withdrawing its notice of intent to institute the emergency scheduling of the active ingredients of kratom in October 2016 and to solicit further public comment.

What Is Kratom (I

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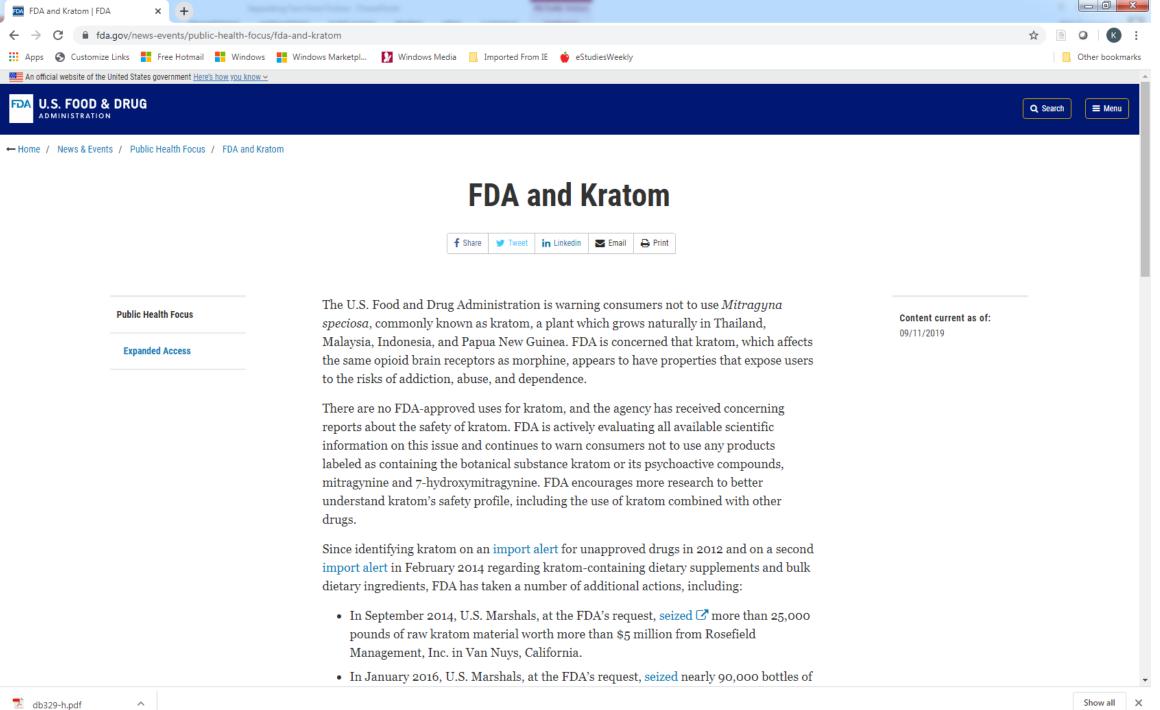
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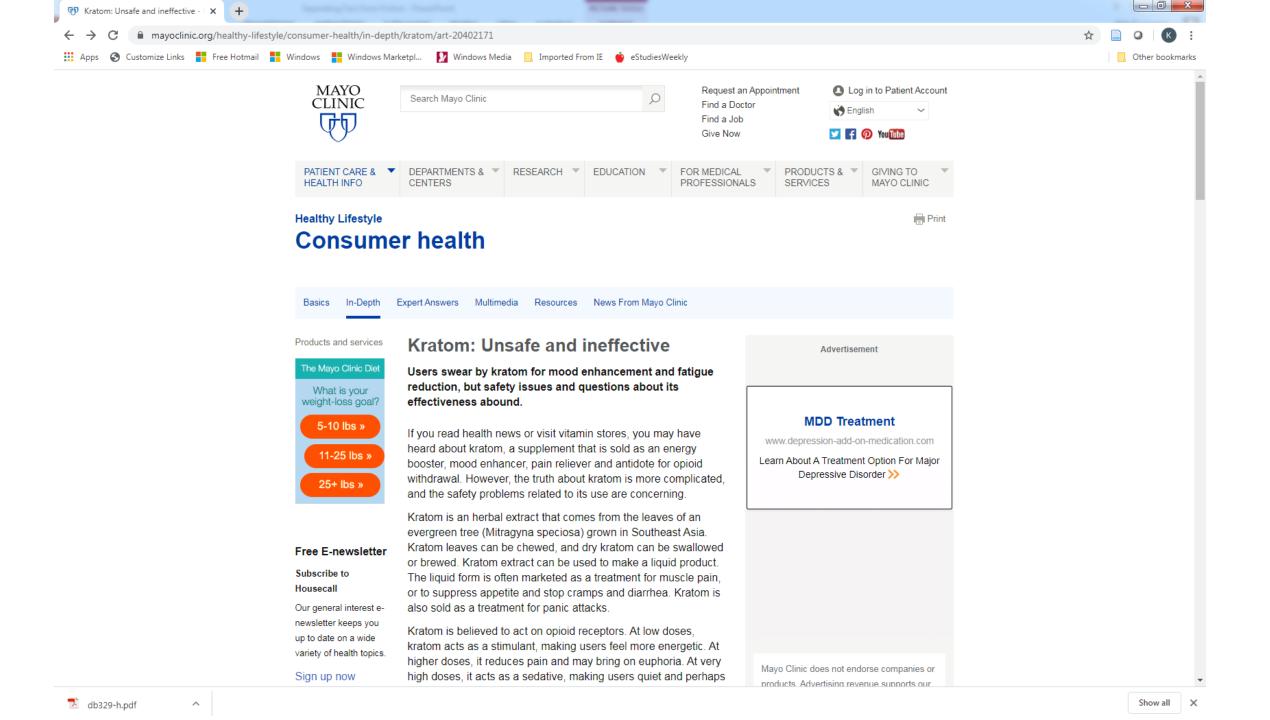
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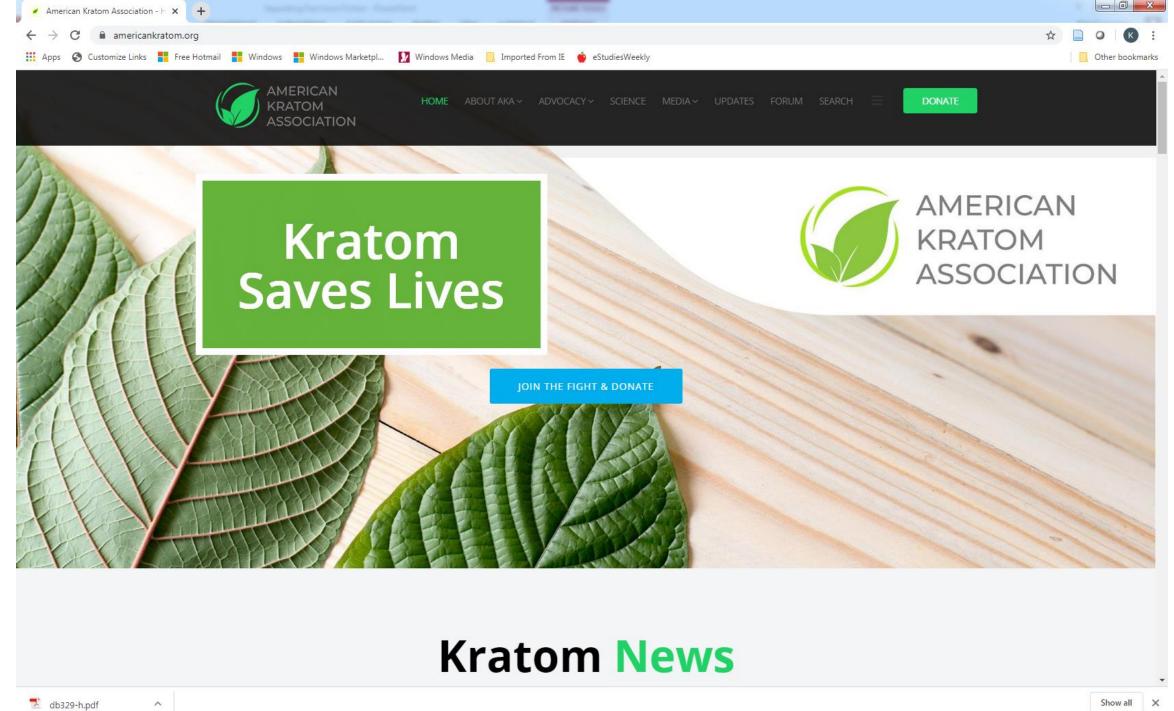
Opioid Analgesics: Best Practices for Prescribing, Dispensing, and Preventing Diversion

Enforcement Actions

View More CE >>









DAYS THE FDA HAS IGNORED AKA'S MEETING REQUEST

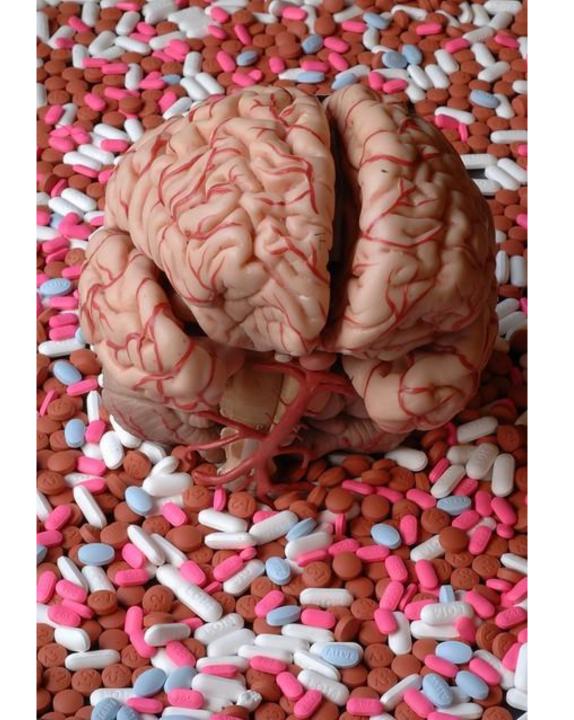
518:20:29:14 DAYS

Thank you to NIDA Director Nora Volkow for recognizing and following the science on kratom.

The FDA should follow Dr. Volkow's lead: Meet with the AKA and follow the science.



db329-h.pdf



Kratom?

- What are you paying for?
- What is the best dose of kratom?
- Does kratom work?
- Can kratom harm you?
- Can you become addicted to kratom?



Why Kratom?

- Euphoria
- Pain
- Withdrawal
- Opioid abstinence
- Physical performance

Natural psychoactive substance-related exposures reported to United States poison control centers, 2000–2017

Connor O'Neill-Dee^{a,b}, Henry A. Spiller^{c,d} , Marcel J. Casavant^{a,c,d}, Sandhya Kistamgari^a, Thitphalak Chounthirath^a and Gary A. Smith^{a,c,e}

^aCenter for Injury Research and Policy, The Research Institute at Nationwide Children's Hospital, Columbus, OH, USA; ^bCreighton University School of Medicine, Omaha, NE, USA; ^cDepartment of Pediatrics, The Ohio State University College of Medicine, Columbus, OH, USA; ^dCentral Ohio Poison Center at Nationwide Children's Hospital, Columbus, OH, USA; ^eChild Injury Prevention Alliance, Columbus, OH, USA

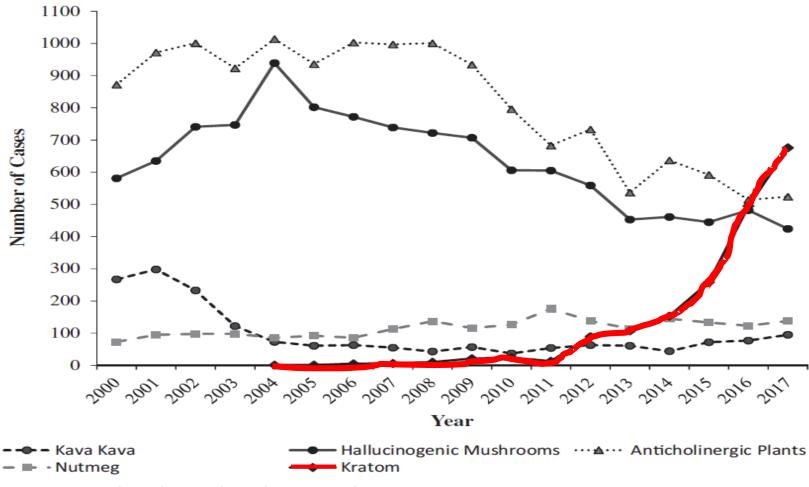


Figure 2. Annual number of exposures to selected natural psychoactive substances, NPDS 2000–2017.

Notes from the Field

Unintentional Drug Overdose Deaths with Kratom Detected — 27 States, July 2016– December 2017

Emily O'Malley Olsen, PhD¹; Julie O'Donnell, PhD¹; Christine L. Mattson, PhD¹; Joshua G. Schier, MD¹; Nana Wilson, PhD¹

TABLE. Co-occurrence of substances and circumstances among overdose decedents with kratom detected on postmortem toxicology — State Unintentional Drug Overdose Reporting System, 27 states,* July 2016–December 2017

| Characteristic/Circumstance | Kratom detected on toxicology (n = 152) No. (%) | Kratom determined to be a cause of death (n = 91) No. (%) | | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| Sex | | | | | | | |
| Male | 116 (76.3) | 69 (75.8) | | | | | |
| Female | 36 (23.7) | 22 (24.2) | | | | | |
| Race | | | | | | | |
| White† | 119 (91.5) | 81 (93.1) | | | | | |
| Nonwhite | 11 (8.5) | 5 | | | | | |
| Medically supervised pain treatment | | | | | | | |
| No evidence | 138 (90.8) | 80 (87.9) | | | | | |
| Evidence | 14 (9.2) | 11 (12.1) | | | | | |
| Previous overdose reported | | | | | | | |
| None | 139 (91.5) | 81 (89.0) | | | | | |
| One or more | 13 (8.5) | 10 (11.0) | | | | | |
| History of substance misuse reported (opioid and/or nonopioid) | | | | | | | |
| No evidence | 29 (19.1) | 20 (22.0) | | | | | |
| Evidence | 123 (80.9) | 71 (78.0) | | | | | |
| Co-occurring substances listed as a cause of death 1,** | | | | | | | |
| Any fentanyl (including analogs) | 99 (65.1) | 51 (56.0) | | | | | |
| Heroin ^{††} | 50 (32.9) | 23 (25.3) | | | | | |
| Benzodiazepines | 34 (22.4) | 24 (26.4) | | | | | |
| Prescription opioids ^{§§} | 30 (19.7) | 22 (24.2) | | | | | |
| Cocaine | 28 (18.4) | 15 (16.5) | | | | | |
| Alcohol | 19 (12.5) | 11 (12.1) | | | | | |
| Methamphetamine | 13 (8.6) | _ | | | | | |

Kratom Use and Toxicities in the United States

William Eggleston^{1,2,*} Robert Stoppacher,³ Kyle Suen,² Jeanna M. Marraffa,^{2,4} and Lewis S. Nelson⁵

School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, Binghamton University, Binghamton, New York; ²Department of Emergency Medicine, SUNY Upstate Medical University, Syracuse, New York; ³Department of Pathology,

SUNY Upstate Medical University, Syracuse, New York; ⁴Upstate New York Poison Center, Syracuse, New York; ⁵Department of Emergency Medicine, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School, Newark, New Jersey

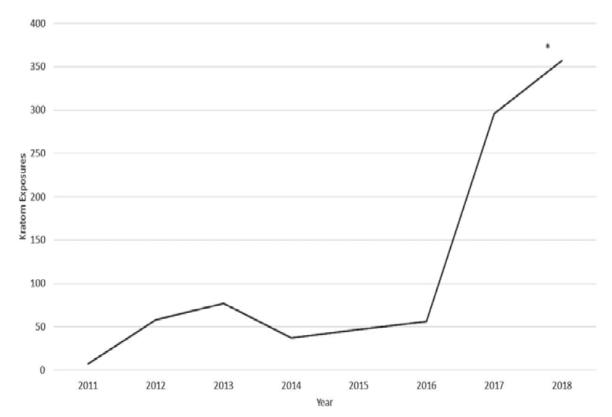


Figure 1. Kratom exposures reported to the National Poison Data System from January 1, 2011, to July 31, 2018. *Data for 2018 is partial and includes exposures from January 1, 2018, to July 31, 2018.

RESULTS A total of 2312 kratom exposures were reported, with 935 cases involving kratom as the only substance. Kratom most commonly caused agitation (18.6%), tachycardia (16.9%), drowsiness (13.6%), vomiting (11.2%), and confusion (8.1%). Serious effects of seizure (6.1%), withdrawal (6.1%), hallucinations (4.8%), respiratory depression (2.8%), coma (2.3%), and cardiac or respiratory arrest (0.6%) were also reported. Kratom was listed as a cause or contributing factor in the death of four decedents identified by the county medical examiner's office.





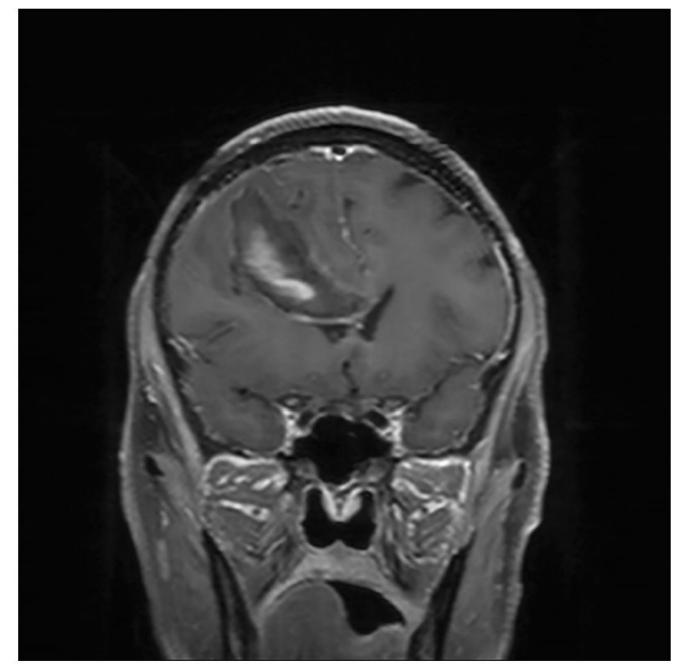


Fig. 1 CT angiogram of the head revealed intraparenchymal hemorrhage with intraventricular extension.



LETTER TO THE EDITOR



Evidence of a potential mechanism for Kratom-related cardiac arrest

2 H. WOLFER ET AL.



Figure 1. Commercially available kratom preparation purchased by the patient.

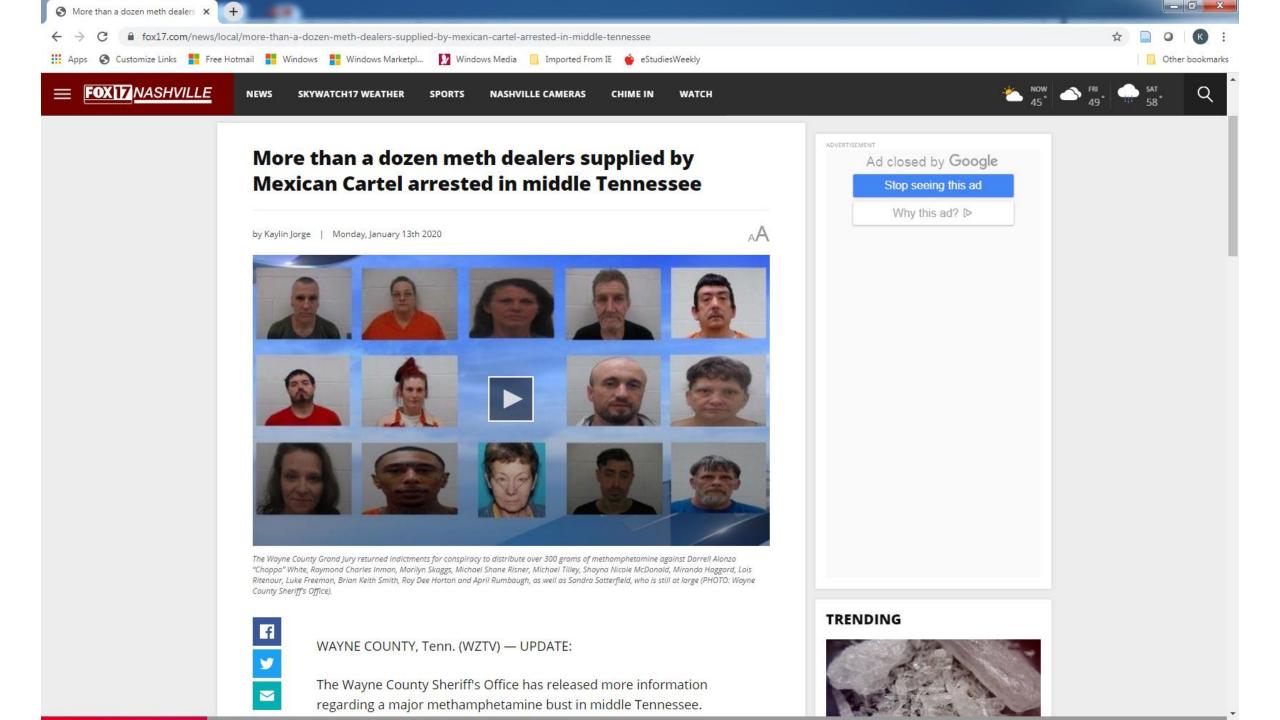
Other effects

- Salmonella
- Liver injury
- Addiction
- Withdrawal



2019 VPC Methamphetamine







A New Drug Scourge: Deaths Involving Meth Are Rising Fast

Today's meth is far more potent than earlier versions, but because it isn't an opioid, many federal addiction treatment funds can't be used to fight it.

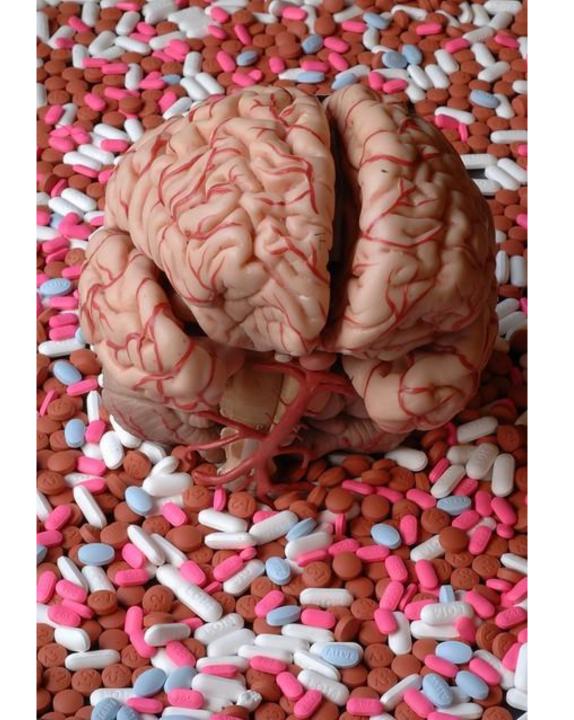


Shayla Divelbiss used methamphetamine for six years, ignoring a thyroid condition and going days at a

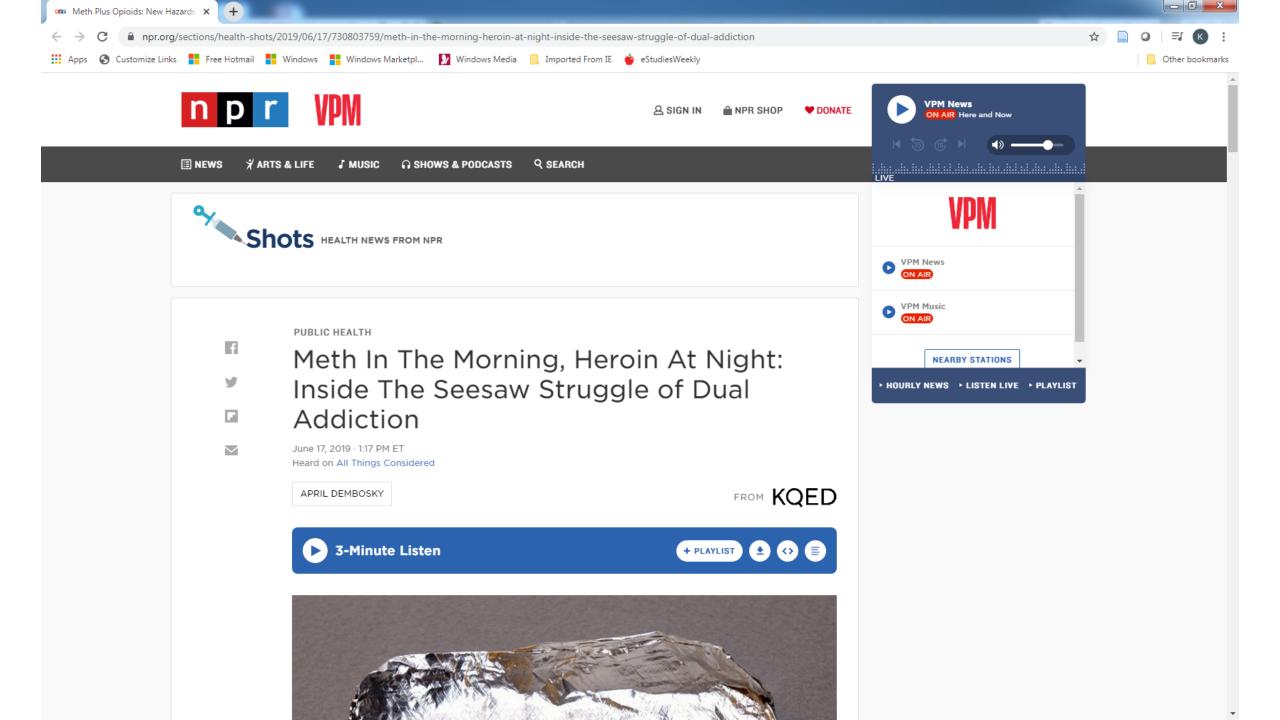


Meth, the Forgotten Killer, Is Back. And It's Everywhere.









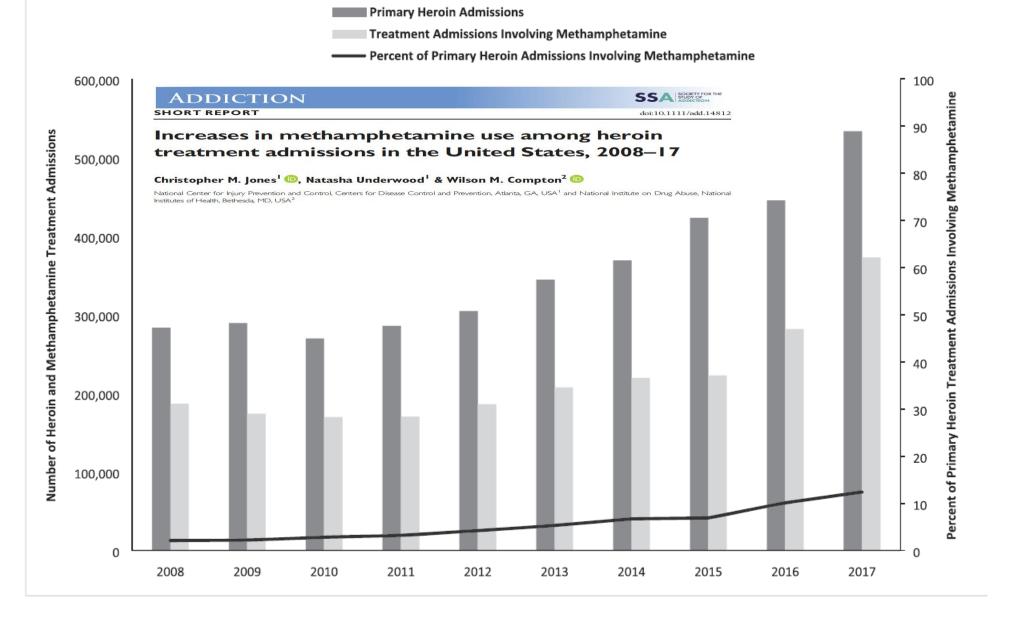


Figure 1 Primary heroin treatment admissions involving methamphetamine use among people 12 years or older, United States, 2008–17. *Data source*: 2008–17 Treatment Episode Data Set. Heroin treatment admissions were defined as admissions where heroin was the primary substance of use. Heroin treatment admissions involving methamphetamine were those where heroin was the primary substance of use and methamphetamine was listed as the secondary or tertiary substance of use



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Drug and Alcohol Dependence

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/drugalcdep

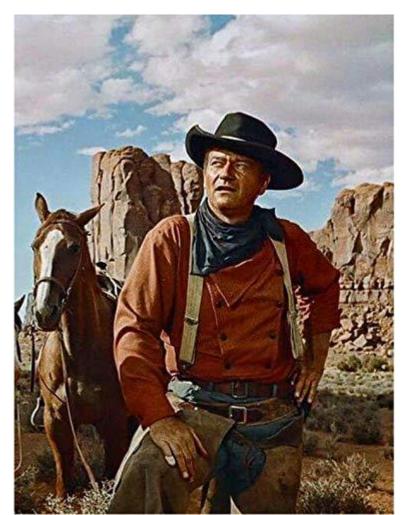
Full length article

Twin epidemics: The surging rise of methamphetamine use in chronic opioid users

Matthew S. Ellis*, Zachary A. Kasper, Theodore J. Cicero

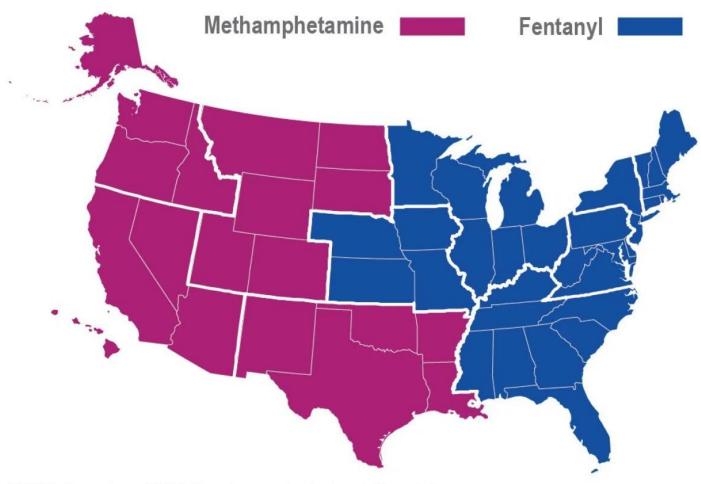
Washington University, Department of Psychiatry, Campus Box 8134, 660 S. Euclid Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63110 USA

- White
- Male
- Rural
- West



Drug overdose deaths by region

Methamphetamine was the top drug involved in overdose deaths in most of the western half of the U.S. while fentanyl pervaded the eastern half.



NOTE: Data from 2017. Deaths may include additional drugs.

SOURCE: NCHS National Vital Statistics System



 $\label{eq:condition} \begin{tabular}{ll} \textbf{Table 2} \\ \textbf{Motivations for co-occurring use of methamphetamine and opioids (N = 145).} \\ \end{tabular}$

| Coded responses | N (%) | Representative quotes |
|---------------------------------|-----------|--|
| High-seeking | 74 (51.0) | (1) The high was like a roller coaster |
| | | (2) I enjoyed the synergetic effect |
| | | (3) I was told that it was a fabulous high, so I tried it and loved it |
| Balance of effect | 56 (38.6) | (1) I could function on them together |
| | | (2) I used meth to give me the rush & to have energy. I used heroin to numb myself or to get the high from the opioids. If i used too much meth id use heroin to calm down; |
| | | (3) Cause I was trying to get allot of work done energy with no pain make you be able to get stuff done |
| | | (4) Use meth sometimes to counter the drowsiness from opiods |
| Availabile as Opioid Substitute | 22 (15.2) | (1) So when i couldn't use opioids because of money or availability, i used methamphetamine |
| | | (2) I would use meth when I had ran out. |
| | | (3) When I was really sick from the withdrawal and I couldn't find opioids, I would use methamphetamine |
| Escape from life/ Numbness | 14 (9.7) | (1) Just feel numb n not worry about my problems |
| | | (2) Because I hated to be fully aware and have to percieve my surroundings, situations and life. When I was high it was like walking around in a dream state. I was numbed |
| | | (3) Escape from the reality of life |
| Addiction | 13 (9.0) | (1) Because I'm a drug addict and would do anything I could to avoid being sober. I would use any excuse I could to justify use of different drugs |
| | | (2) Because I'm a addict and it didn't matter how I got high just that I did. |
| Social Setting | 9 (6.2) | (1) Initially it was just to party with socially then became addicted and had to use daily |
| | | (2) The pupil dilation and other signs that would make it obvious that I was high would be less noticable as well. Made it a lot easily to hide from people around me. |

Al-Tayyib et al. Page 17

Table 4

Association between overdose and drug injection pattern in the past 12 months in a sample of persons who inject drugs.

| | Overdosed at least one n (%) | ce Unadjusted prevalence ratio (95% CI) | Adjusted prevalence ratio [*] (95% CI) |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|--|--|
| Drug injection pattern | | | |
| Heroin only | 20 (11.6) | 1.0 (ref) | 1.0 (ref) |
| Methamphetamine only | 9 (7.4) | 0.63 (0.30,1.35) | 0.64 (0.29, 1.43) |
| Both heroin and methamphetamine | 99 (33.6) | 2.89 (1.85,4.49) | 2.80 (1.72,4.53) |

Source: National HIV Behavioral Surveillance (NHBS), Denver, Colorado, 2015.

Adjusted for race/ethnicity, age, frequency of injection, incarceration, and homelessness.

Fact or Fiction?

- The source of abused fentanyl is pharmaceutical grade.
- Fentanyl will NOT be detected on routine urine drug screen.
- Fentanyl comes in all shapes and sizes and can mimic other drugs.
- Fentanyl kills as many people heroin.
- Powdered synthetic fentanyl, like carfentinil, will NOT kill you if it is present in the room or touches your skin.
- You should wear protective equipment and decontaminate any fentanyl skin exposure.

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- The use of methamphetamines with opioids leads to more overdoses.
- If you live in the Eastern US don't worry about methamphetamine.

