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| **C:\Users\JosieP\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.MSO\62AFF97B.tmp**Oregon Health Authority : Oregon Health Authority : State of Oregon**Know what’s in your drugs**  **XYLAZINE or “TRANQ”** | |
| Xylazine is an animal tranquilizer that is not approved for use in humans due to harmful side effects. Xylazine is being added to street drugs more often and is often found mixed with fentanyl to mimic the high of heroin. Dope with xylazine was first seen in Puerto Rico in the early 2000s but it is now being found all across the US. | |
| When xylazine is mixed with another drug  like fentanyl, heroin, or benzos,  the chance of overdose increases.  If someone is overdosing, call 911, give the  person naloxone, and do rescue breathing  like you normally would.  If the person starts breathing again but is still sedated (drowsy or sleepy), they do not need any more naloxone. Put them on their side and watch them until the paramedics arrive. | People who regularly use xylazine often have severe skin ulcers and abscesses, which can  spread and worsen quickly.      These wounds are seen regardless of how  people use (smoking, snorting, injecting, etc.)  and often present away from the site of injection.  It is very difficult for these wounds to heal on  their own so it is important to get medical attention if you have any. |
| **What can you do if you think there**  **is xylazine in your dope?**  First, try to ask around and see how the drug is making other people feel before you buy or use it. Since xylazine can cause a really heavy nod, try to use somewhere that you will be safe and won’t fall and hurt yourself. And, if you think there is xylazine in your drugs let others know including someone at your local exchange program so folks know to be careful. | |
| Carry naloxone Start low Tell someone ( (Narcan) go slow you’re using | **Never Use Alone**  English hotline: 800-484-3731  Spanish hotline: 800-928-5330 |

Frequently Asked Questions

# What are the signs and symptoms of a xylazine-involved overdose?

The main effect of xylazine is heavy sedation (drowsiness or sleepiness), so the person who has overdosed will likely be unresponsive. When xylazine is found in combination with fentanyl, the signs and symptoms can include blue/greyish skin, small pupils, low body temperature, dry mouth, slow heartbeat, unconsciousness, and slowed or stopped breathing.

# Does [naloxone (Narcan)](https://substanceusephilly.com/get-naloxone) reverse xylazine-involved overdoses?

No xylazine is not an opioid, so naloxone will not reverse a xylazine overdose. However, because xylazine is almost always found in combination with opioids, including fentanyl, naloxone should still be administered whenever an opioid-involved overdose is suspected. However, an overdose can be treated in the hospital with supportive care, meaning that the person’s symptoms are addressed

# Does xylazine cause skin ulcers or abscesses?

People who regularly use xylazine often have severe skin ulcers and abscesses.

Also in areas of the US where xylazine has become more common, hospital systems have reported an increase in skin and soft tissue infections. These wounds are seen regardless of how people use (smoking, snorting, injecting, etc.) and are often present all over the body often away from any sites of injection. These wounds often appear to worsen more quickly than other skin infections.

# Why do people use xylazine with fentanyl?

The “high” from fentanyl lasts for a very short time compared to the high from heroin and other opioids. Xylazine may be added, at least in part, to extend the effects of fentanyl and mimic the high of heroin. However, not everyone who uses fentanyl is intentionally seeking out xylazine. In some cases, people are not aware that xylazine is in the drugs they are buying and using.

# Is there an easy way to test for xylazine?

No currently, there are no rapid or simple tests for xylazine.

Test strips are available to test for fentanyl, but these are not able to detect xylazine.

# Can a person experience withdrawal from xylazine?

Yes, people who use xylazine heavily and frequently are at risk of withdrawal.

Xylazine withdrawal is often marked by irritability, anxiety, and a feeling of unease.

It may also cause a rapid heart rate and high blood pressure, although these are not always present.