

"FRANKENSTEIN OPIOIDS" ARE EVEN MORE LETHAL THAN THE DRUGS ALREADY RESPONSIBLE FOR SO MANY OVERDOSE AND POISONING DEATHS

DEADLIER THAN FENTANYL?

A DRUG THAT WAS NEVER APPROVED FOR MEDICAL USE

NITAZENES

What is a Nitazene?

Nitazenes are potent synthetic opioids from a drug class known as benzimidazole-opioids.

What do Nitazenes look like?

Nitazenes can be found as a white powder, crystalline solid or brown/yellow powder. They have also been found mixed in counterfeit pills, heroin, ketamine and synthetic cannabinoids.

How are Nitazenes different from other Opioids?

The primary difference between Nitazenes and other opioid drugs is in their potency. Nitazenes are one of the most potent opioids on the illicit drug market today. They are cheaper to produce than fentanyl or heroin and 2-40 times stronger than fentanyl. These substances are chemically engineered to mimic the effects of traditional opioids, such as heroin or prescription painkillers, making them highly sought after in the illicit drug market.

Nitazenes and public health:

The everchanging illicit drug market, with the introduction of substances such as Nitazenes, presents significant challenges for public health and law enforcement. The emergence of Nitazenes in forensic testing, despite their presence for decades, underscores the continual evolution of synthetic drugs and the complexities in monitoring their constantly shifting chemical compositions. Illicit drug suppliers often make deliberate modifications to evade legal restrictions and detection techniques.

Nitazenes in polydrug mixtures:

Nitazenes are being mixed in with other drugs like fentanyl, heroin, cocaine, and xylazine, making the effects of the drugs more potent and the chance for overdose or death more severe.



**FACING
FENTANYL**



Common Nitazenes Include:
Isotonitazene (ISO)
Metonitazene
Etonitazene
Protonitazene



Nitazenes can be injected, inhaled or swallowed (tablet form)



Effects of Nitazenes:
Short term - Euphoria, Drowsiness, Itchiness, Nausea/Vomiting, Fever/Sweating, Pain relief, Slow breathing/Heart rate
Overdose/Poisoning - Slow/shallow breathing, bluish/greyish lips & complexion, passing out, coma, death

**Nitazenes can be reversed by Naloxone but often take multiple doses*



IMMEDIATELY
CALL 911 IF YOU SUSPECT AN OPIOID POISONING OR OVERDOSE
BE SAFE NOT SORRY!



Naloxone is a medicine that rapidly reverses an opioid overdose/poisoning. It can quickly restore normal breathing to a person if their breathing has slowed or stopped because of a poisoning or opioid overdose. It has no effect on someone who does not have opioids in their system, and it is not a treatment for opioid use disorder. Naloxone needs to be administered immediately; every second counts.

For more information visit: facingfentanylnow.org

Resources provided by: dea.gov aafp.org adf.org.au ncbi.nlm.nih.gov