



# Fentanyl Exposure



On the job exposure to Fentanyl and other illicit drugs is a risk to EMS providers. Exposures can occur by 1) inhalation, 2) ingestion, 3) absorption through mucous membranes and liquid forms through the skin or 5) needle sticks.

## Exposure Prevention Tips

- Upon arrival, providers should analyze the scene and determine if there is potential for illicit drugs to be present.
- Always wear appropriate PPE such as nitrile gloves and respiratory PPE.
- Avoid tasks that would cause any powdered drugs to become airborne.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth. Do not eat, drink, smoke or use the bathroom in a potentially contaminated area.
- Always wash your hands with soap after removing your gloves.

## Steps to Take If Exposed

- ✓ Exit the scene and notify your supervisor of exposure.
- ✓ Shower or wash affected area immediately with soap and water. Do not use hand sanitizer or bleach solutions.
- ✓ Do not take contaminated clothing or PPE home. Decontaminate clothing and reusable PPE according to your agencies and manufactures standards.
- ✓ Seek medical treatment and administer Naloxone if an overdose is suspected.

Visit [bit.ly/FentanylExposureSafety](https://bit.ly/FentanylExposureSafety) for more information about PPE guidelines, decontamination and training to prevent Fentanyl and illicit drug exposures.

