

HOW TO USE FENTANYL, XYLAZINE AND BENZODIAZEPINE TEST STRIPS



IMPORTANT:

- Test strips can only tell you if the drug you are testing for is in your supply. Your supply could have other drugs or substances that won't be picked up by the test strip. It is always best to do a test shot and go slow when you inject.
- Many test strips only test for one type of drug. For example, a fentanyl test strip only tests for fentanyl, and will not provide information about whether other drug types like xylazine and benzodiazepine are present.

WHAT YOU NEED FOR TO TEST FOR DRUG IN YOUR SUPPLY:



Test strip
Teaspoon (5 mL) water



Empty syringe
Cooker

HOW TO USE TEST STRIPS FOR DRUGS THAT ARE INJECTED:

1. Prepare your shot and draw it into a syringe. **Do NOT shoot up yet.** Set the loaded syringe aside and add 5mL water to the cooker.
2. Stir mixture.
3. Holding the test strip by the **blue end**, insert the test strip into the solution, but do not go past the blue line. Leave it in there for about 15 seconds.
4. Lay the test strip flat on top of the cooker for a full minute.
5. Check the result of the test strip.
6. Throw away the cooker and any remaining liquid. The remaining liquid is now toxic.



Do not use Xylazine test strips on substances containing cocaine- you won't get an accurate reading

HOW TO USE FOR DRUGS THAT ARE SNORTED:

1. Empty bag of powder onto table. The baggie should have powder remaining on the sides (residual powder).
2. Add 5mL water into empty bag with residual powder
3. Hold the test strip by the blue end and dip the strip into the solution. Do not go past the blue line and hold the strip in the solution for 15 seconds.
4. Lay the test strip flat on a clean surface for a full minute for fentanyl and a full five minutes for xylazine and benzodiazepines.
5. Check the results of the test strip
6. Throw away the baggie with solution.

If your drug of choice comes in tablets, crush tablets and mix well. If your drug of choice comes in capsules, open the capsules and mix well. Fentanyl will clump together and mixing well ensures the best detection results. Then follow the instructions for how to detect fentanyl for drugs that are snorted

WHAT RESULTS MEAN:

 **One Red Line**

- **Positive** - Positive - the drug is laced with fentanyl, xylazine or benzodiazepine, depending on type of test strip used

 **Two Red Lines**

- **Negative** - the test did not detect fentanyl, xylazine or benzodiazepine in the drug sample, depending on type of test strip used. **CAUTION: VDH-provided test strips only test for one drug type. For example, a sample testing negative for fentanyl may still contain another drug.**

 **No Control Lines**

- The test is **invalid**

 **No Red Lines**

- The test is **invalid**

RESOURCES AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY



LINK TO MANUFACTURER'S WEBSITE

<https://www.btnx.com/HarmReduction>

Find more information on how to test for fentanyl using these test strips.



LINK TO VDH COMPREHENSIVE HARM REDUCTION WEBSITE (CHR)

<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/disease-prevention/chr/>

A VDH strategy to reduce the negative impact of drug use including **HIV, hepatitis C, other infections, overdose, and death** among people who are unable or not ready to stop using drugs.



NEVER USE ALONE HOTLINE NUMBER

1-800-484-3731

Never Use Alone is a **judgment-free** hotline to make sure you are safe if you are using drugs by yourself. You will be asked for your first name, location, and the number you are calling from. An operator will stay on the line with you while you use. If you stop responding after using, the operator will notify emergency services of an “unresponsive person” at your location.



SAMHSA NATIONAL HELPLINE NUMBER

1-800-622-HELP (4357)

This **free, confidential, 24/7, 365-day-a-year** treatment referral and information service (**in English and Spanish**) is for individuals and families facing mental and/or substance use disorders.

DISCLAIMER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY:

1. Anyone who receives fentanyl, xylazine and/or benzodiazepine test strips through a comprehensive harm reduction or local health department site accepts all responsibility for any harm, injury, or death that occurs from taking drugs, regardless of whether such drugs have been tested with the fentanyl test strips. VDH makes no representation and assumes no responsibility for the accuracy of the test strips or the manner in which a recipient uses them.
2. I agree to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Virginia Department of Health and the Commonwealth of Virginia, as well as officers, agents and employees of the above from all damages, claims and losses accruing or resulting to any person who may claim to be injured or damaged as a result of acts or omissions involving the fentanyl, xylazine and/or benzodiazepine test strips.