



FAIRFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT ROLL CALL TRAINING

DATE

Topic

Background

Law enforcement has seen an increasing number of fentanyl/fentanyl analog-related overdoses. According to information from the California Narcotics Officers Association, fentanyl is being added to all forms of street drugs. Within the last year there have been several documented cases of fentanyl being located in Marijuana, Methamphetamine, Heroin, Cocaine, altered and/or counterfeit prescription pills and vaping products.

Issue

Fentanyl and its analogues pose a potential hazard to a variety of responders who could come into contact with these drugs in the course of their work. Possible exposure routes to fentanyl and its analogues can vary based on the source and form of the drug. Responders are most likely to encounter illicitly manufactured fentanyl and its analogues in powder, tablet, and liquid form. Potential exposure routes of greatest concern include inhalation, mucous membrane contact, ingestion, and percutaneous exposure (e.g., needlestick). Any of these exposure routes can potentially result in a variety of symptoms that can include the rapid onset of life-threatening respiratory depression.

Recommendations

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) recommends the following Standard Safe Operating Procedures.

When arriving at a scene, all responders should analyze the incident, assess the risk for hazards, and determine whether fentanyl or other drugs are suspected to be present. Responders should follow established work practices as well as these recommendations when fentanyl or its analogues are known or suspected to be present.

- Whenever possible wear protective gloves to avoid potential contact with any substances.
- Do not eat, drink, smoke, or use the bathroom while working in an area with known or suspected fentanyl.
- Do not touch the eyes, mouth, and nose after touching any surface potentially contaminated with fentanyl.
- Field testing of fentanyl or its analogues is not recommended due to an increased risk of exposure to responders performing field testing.
- Avoid performing tasks or operations that may aerosolize fentanyl due to increased exposure risks.

- Wash hands with soap and water immediately after a potential exposure and after leaving a scene where fentanyl is known or suspected to be present to avoid potential exposure and to avoid cross contamination. Do not use hand sanitizers or bleach solutions to clean contaminated skin.
- Seek medical attention if you feel effects of fentanyl or believe you have been exposed.

All personnel should review the attached DEA bulletin regarding fentanyl being located in a vaping product leading to an overdose death.

All personnel should also review the information and videos from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) NIOSH website.

<https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/fentanyl/toolkit.html>

Source

Drug Enforcement Administration
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
California Narcotics Officers Association

Attachments

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Distribution

All personnel