# WASHINGTON COUNTY OREGON

## YOUTH OVERDOSE PREVENTION

- Do not take any pill unless it is given to you by a pharmacy or your medical provider.
- Assume any pill not given by a pharmacy or your medical provider is fake and could contain a fatal dose of fentanyl or other drug.
- Pills purchased online are not safe.
- Overdose deaths include youth and people who haven't regularly used drugs.

## WHAT IS FENTANYL?

Fentanyl is a powerful synthetic opioid that is up to 100 times stronger than morphine. Pharmaceutical fentanyl is prescribed for severe pain and anesthesia, but fentanyl is also illegally manufactured and distributed.

Fentanyl is tasteless, odorless, and too small to see.

### **HOW CAN I TELL IF IT IS COUNTERFEIT?**

Fentanyl is often mixed into fake pills. It can also be mixed with or sold as prescription pills like Oxycontin and Xanax that come from a pharmacy. People who buy these from the internet, social media, friends, or dealers believe they are getting one drug, when they are actually getting Fentanyl.

Fake pills often look like prescription drugs.

## **HOW DEADLY IS IT?**

Fentanyl can make a person stop breathing within minutes. Fake pills are especially dangerous because people are often unaware that fentanyl is in them. Counterfeit pill production is not consistent, and each pill may contain a different amount of fentanyl. Within the same batch, some pills can be fatal while others contain little or no fentanyl. Even people who have a high tolerance for opioids face an increased risk of death because of the inconsistency.

2 mg of fentanyl (approximately the tip of a #2 pencil) could mean death.

## **SIGNS OF OPIOID OVERDOSE**

- Difficult to or not able to awaken
- Slow or no breathing
- Pale or clammy skin
- Bluish lips or fingernails
- Abnormal Snoring
- Vomiting

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\*Overdose is a medical emergency!

If someone is unconscious, not breathing or showing signs of an overdose,

call 911 immediately.

## PROTECT YOURSELF AND YOUR FRIENDS

- Don't use; pills are most likely fake and may contain deadly amounts of fentanyl.
- Help is available.
- **Don't use alone**. Have someone with you so that they can help if you overdose. If you become unconscious you will be unable to call for help.
- **Do not mix drugs.** Mixing drugs increases the overdose risk. Opioids, alcohol, and benzodiazepines (Xanax, Valium etc.) all slow breathing.
- Think about the risks of social media platforms and how you can protect yourself.
- Carry multiple doses of naloxone (name-brand "Narcan"). This is a medication that counteracts the effects of opioids and can save your life. It is available over the counter at your local pharmacy and is carried by emergency responders (Fire Fighters, EMS, Police).

The Good Samaritan Law will protect both the person who gives naloxone and the person who is overdosing from prosecution.

## **GET HELP**

- Hawthorn Walk-In Center: 5240 NE Elam Young Parkway, Ste. 100, Hillsboro (Hawthorn Farm Max Stop)
- Washington County 24-hour crisis line: 503-291-9111
- Alcohol & Drug Help Line: 1-800-923-4357
- Washington County substance use disorder treatment and peer services provider list on our website: Addictions | Washington County, OR (washingtoncountyor.gov)
- Oregon Youth Line (text or call): 1-877-968-8491
- Text teen2teen at 839863
- Al-Anon/Ala-teen: www.al-anon.org or 1-800-344-2666

## **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

- <u>Teens.drugabuse.gov</u>
- drugfree.org
- www.samhsa.gov