

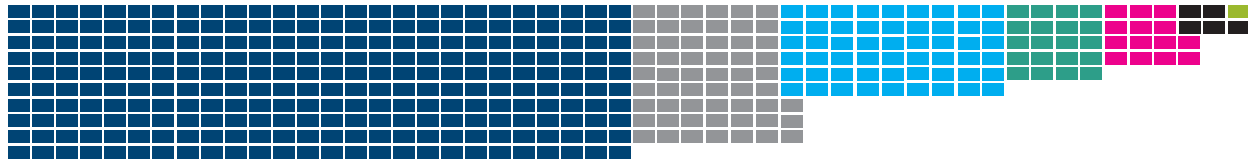
1-31 May  
2019

# Drug Checking in Vancouver Coastal Health

## # of Samples Tested by Expected Drug Category:

412 Samples Tested

Opioid: 260 / Stimulant: 57 / Psychedelic: 54 / Unknown: 21 / Depressant: 14 / Other: 5 / Polysubstance: 1



## Common Components, Cuts and Buffs

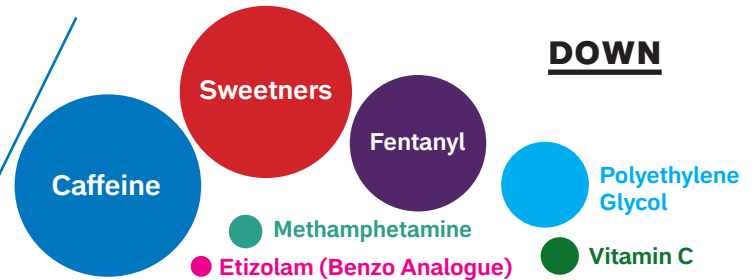
### UP

- Phenacetin (Superbuff)
- Benzocaine
- Caffeine
- Levamisole (De-wormer)

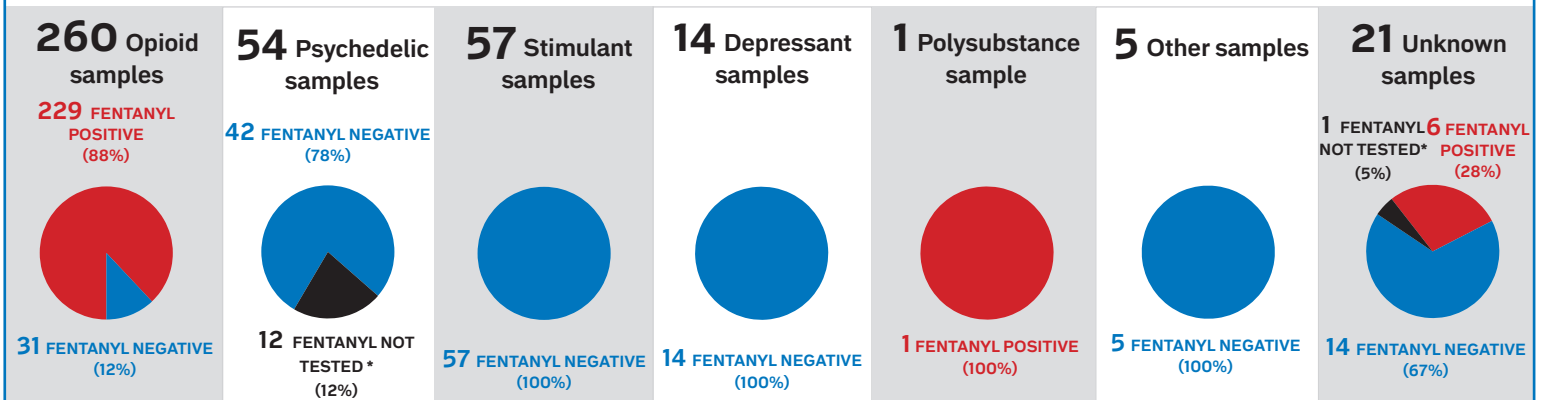
### SIDE

- Dimethyl Sulfone (MSM)
- Sugar

### DOWN



## # of samples tested for fentanyl



## Public health notifications

Date & Location	Expected Drug	FT-IR Drugs Detected	Fentanyl Strip	What does this mean?
7-May 2019 Molson OPS	"Down"	Dextromethorphan, Lidocaine, Fentanyl	Positive	DXM may cause hallucinations or dissociation at higher doses
10-May 2019 Molson OPS	Fentanyl	Cartentanil	Postiive	Carfentanil is a very strong opioid that may cause OD even in very small amounts
22-May 2019 Insite	Fentanyl	Benzodiazepines	Positive	May cause prolonged OD

To receive drug contamination alerts, text "alert" to (236) 999-DOPE (3673)

This report summarizes key indicators for Fourier Transform Infrared (FT-IR)/fentanyl test strip combination drug checking done in Vancouver Coastal Health in May 2019.

As the FT-IR spectrometer has a detection limit of 3-4% by weight (Sherman et al., 2018), unless otherwise stated, a drug check on any given sample consists of **both** Bruker ALPHA Fourier-Transform Infrared (FTIR) spectrometer **and** BTNX fentanyl immunoassay test strip testing done in combination. When applicable, BTNX benzodiazepine or lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD) immunoassay test strips are also used.

Please note that these data are not finalized and are subject to change.

\* "Fentanyl not tested" means that a fentanyl test strip wasn't done for the sample because the client declined to do the test, or they left before the test was able to be completed.






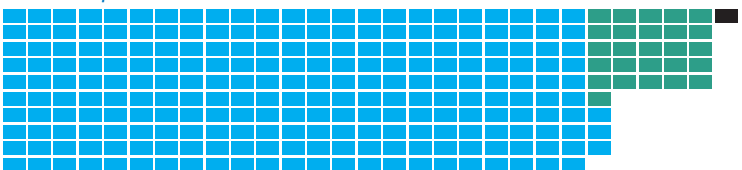

BCCSU gratefully acknowledge the contributions of the following partners:

## # of drugs checks and hours at each respective site:

Location	# of Drug Checks	Hours
Insite	216	41
Molson OPS	117	28
Overdose Prevention Society	44	21
St. Paul's OPS	29	15
BSSCU Conference 2019	6	16
<b>Total</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>121</b>

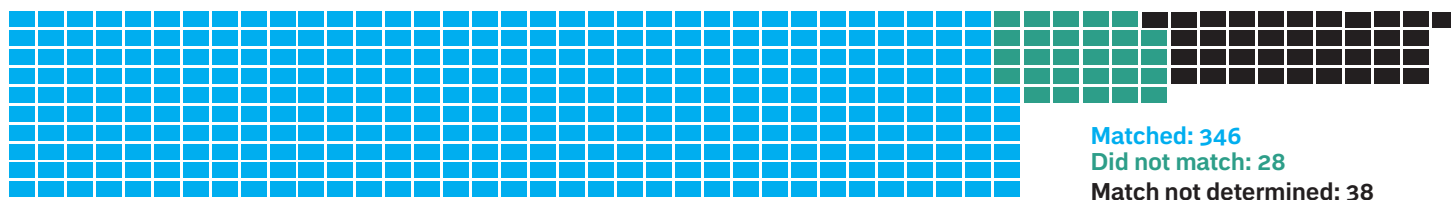
## # of samples that matched client expectation

*\*using FTIR/test strip drug checking*

<p>EXPECTED DRUG: <b>Depressant</b> 14 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 13 Match not determined: 1</p>	<p>EXPECTED DRUG: <b>Psychedelic</b> 54 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 39 Did not match: 2 Match not determined: 13</p>	<p>EXPECTED DRUG: <b>Stimulant</b> 57 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 56 Match not determined: 1</p>	<p>EXPECTED DRUG: <b>Polysubstance</b> 1 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 1</p>
<p>EXPECTED DRUG: <b>Unknown</b> 21 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Match not determined: 21</p>	<p>EXPECTED DRUG: <b>Opioid</b> 260 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 233 Did not match: 26 Match not determined: 1</p>	<p>EXPECTED DRUG: <b>Other</b> 5 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 4 Match not determined: 1</p>	






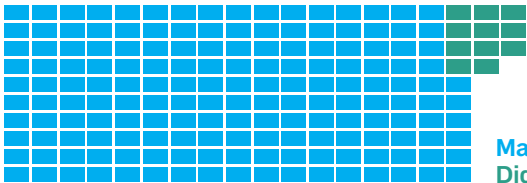

### Total

412 Samples Tested



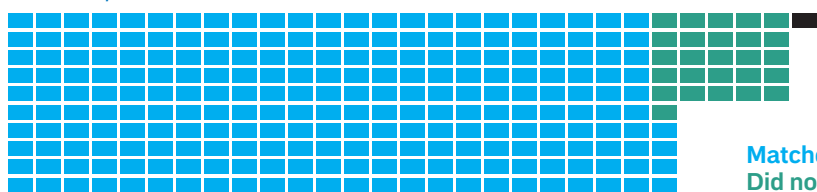
## # of opioid samples that matched client expectation

*\*using FTIR/test strip drug checking*

<p>EXPECTED DRUG: <b>Fentanyl &amp; Heroin</b> 11 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 4 Did not match: 7</p>	<p>EXPECTED DRUG: <b>Fentanyl Analogue</b> 2 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 2</p>	<p>EXPECTED DRUG: <b>Opium</b> 4 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 4</p>	<p>EXPECTED DRUG: <b>Down</b> 38 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 38</p>
<p>EXPECTED DRUG: <b>Heroin</b> 24 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 16 Did not match: 8</p>	<p>EXPECTED DRUG: <b>Fentanyl</b> 177 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 166 Did not match: 11</p>		<p>EXPECTED DRUG: <b>Pharmaceutical</b> 4 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 3 Match not determined: 1</p>

### Total

261 Samples Tested



Matched: 234  
Did not match: 26  
Match not determined: 1

Please note that the presence of the expected substance does not imply purity, as samples frequently contain adulterating cutting agents  
\*‘Down’ can refer to any opioid drug present in any amount

**Depressant may include:**  
benzodiazepines,  
GHB, zopiclone

**Opioid may include:**  
“down,” heroin, fentanyl,  
fentanyl analogues,  
pharmaceutical opioids

**Polysubstance includes:**  
cross-category mixtures

**Psychedelic may include:**  
2C-family, tryptamines,  
ketamine, MDMA,  
LSD, cannabis

**Stimulant may include:**  
“speed”, crystal meth,  
cocaine, cathinones

**Unknown includes:**  
all samples in which the  
client could not identify the  
expected substance

BCCSU and VCH gratefully acknowledge the contributions of the following partners:

Portland Hotel Society | Insite | Molson Overdose Prevention Site | SisterSpace | Overdose Prevention Society  
St. Paul’s Overdose Prevention Site | Powell Street Getaway

