

1-30 June
2019

Drug Checking in Vancouver Coastal Health

of Samples Tested by Expected Drug Category:

243 Samples Tested

Opioid: 141 / Stimulant: 40 / Psychedelic: 34 / Unknown: 23 / Depressant: 4 / Other: 0 / Polysubstance: 1



Common Components, Cuts and Buffs

UP

- Phenacetin (Superbuff)
- Caffeine
- Sucrose

SIDE

- Dimethyl Sulfone (MSM)

Caffeine

Sweeteners

Fentanyl

Methamphetamine HCl

Cocaine

DOWN

Polyethylene Glycol

of samples tested for fentanyl

141 Opioid samples

226 FENTANYL POSITIVE (89%)



15 FENTANYL NEGATIVE (11%)

34 Psychedelic samples

24 FENTANYL NEGATIVE (71%)



10 FENTANYL NOT TESTED* (29%)

40 Stimulant samples

39 FENTANYL NEGATIVE (98%)



1 FENTANYL NOT TESTED* (2%)

4 Depressant samples

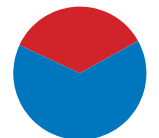
4 FENTANYL NEGATIVE (100%)

1 Polysubstance sample

1 FENTANYL POSITIVE (100%)

23 Unknown samples

8 FENTANYL POSITIVE (35%)



15 FENTANYL NEGATIVE (65%)

Public health notifications

Date & Location	Expected Drug	Drugs Detected	Fentanyl Strip	What does this mean?
12- June 2019 Insite, Vancouver	Alprazolam	Flubromazolam	Positive	Potent Benzo, may cause prolonged OD and severe drowsiness
27- June 2019 OPS, Vancouver	"Down"	Benzo test strip positive	Positive	May cause OD and drowsiness

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 June 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.







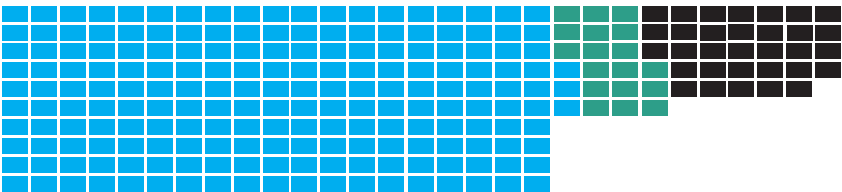
BCCSU gratefully acknowledge the contributions of the following partners:

of drugs checks and hours at each respective site:

Location	# of Drug Checks	Hours
Insite	115	18
Molson OPS	75	20
Overdose Prevention Society	34	21
St. Paul's OPS	8	9
Powell Street Getaway	1	3
SisterSpace	10	6
Total	243	77







of samples that matched client expectation

**using FTIR/test strip drug checking*

<p>EXPECTED DRUG: Depressant 4 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 4</p>	<p>EXPECTED DRUG: Psychedelic 34 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 28 Match not determined: 6</p>	<p>EXPECTED DRUG: Stimulant 40 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 38 Did not match: 2</p>	<p>EXPECTED DRUG: Polysubstance 1 Sample Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 1</p>
<p>EXPECTED DRUG: Unknown 23 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Match not determined: 23</p>	<p>EXPECTED DRUG: Opioid 141 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 122 Did not match: 16 Match not determined: 3</p>		
<p>Total 243 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 193 Did not match: 18 Match not determined: 32</p>			

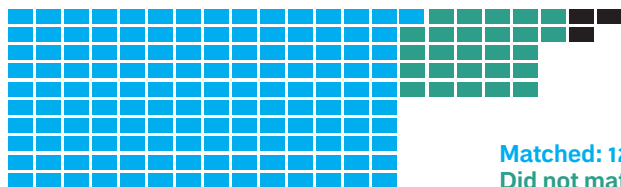
of opioid samples that matched client expectation

**using FTIR/test strip drug checking*

<p>EXPECTED DRUG: Fentanyl & Heroin 9 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 4 Did not match: 5</p>	<p>EXPECTED DRUG: Fentanyl Analogue 1 Sample Tested</p>  <p>Did not match: 1</p>	<p>EXPECTED DRUG: Down 14 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 11 Did not match: 3</p>
<p>EXPECTED DRUG: Heroin 8 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 4 Did not match: 4</p>	<p>EXPECTED DRUG: Fentanyl 106 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 103 Did not match: 3</p>	<p>EXPECTED DRUG: Pharmaceutical 3 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Match not determined: 3</p>

Total

141 Samples Tested



Matched: 122
Did not match: 16
Match not determined: 3

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

