

## # of Samples Tested by Expected Drug Category:

164 Samples Tested

Opioid: 99 / Stimulant: 31 / Psychedelic: 19 / Unknown: 11 / Depressant: 3 / Other: 0 / Polysubstance: 1



## Common Components, Cuts and Buffs

### UP

### SIDE

### DOWN

- Phenacetin (Superbuff)
- Cocaine
- Sweeteners

- Caffeine
- Sweeteners
- Dimethyl sulfone (MSM)
- Methamphetamine

- Sweeteners
- Polyethylene Glycol
- Lactose
- Fentanyl Precursors
- AMB-FUBINACA
- Methamphetamine
- Heroin
- Caffeine
- Fentanyl

## # of samples tested for fentanyl

99 Opioid samples

93 FENTANYL POSITIVE (94%)



1 FENTANYL NOT TESTED\* (1%)  
5 FENTANYL NEGATIVE (5%)

19 Psychedelic samples

15 FENTANYL NEGATIVE (79%)



4 FENTANYL NOT TESTED\* (21%)

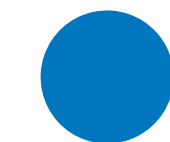
31 Stimulant samples

30 FENTANYL NEGATIVE (97%)



1 FENTANYL NOT TESTED\* (3%)

3 Depressant samples



3 FENTANYL NEGATIVE (100%)

1 Polysubstance sample



1 FENTANYL POSITIVE (100%)

11 Unknown samples

7 FENTANYL NEGATIVE (64%)



3 FENTANYL POSITIVE (27%)  
1 FENTANYL NOT TESTED\* (9%)

## Public Health Notifications

### Novel Psychoactive Substance (NPS) Detected by Laboratory Analysis

December 2019- Insite, Vancouver	<b>Flubromazepam:</b> Benzodiazepines mixed with opioids increases the risk of overdose
December 2019- Insite, Vancouver	<b>Flualprazolam, Etizolam:</b> NPS benzodiazepines have unknown strength and potency. Check Down samples with test strips

12.5% of expected opioid samples tested positive for benzodiazepines in the Vancouver Coastal Health region

11.8% of expected opioid samples tested positive for benzodiazepines in the Fraser Health region

**To receive drug contamination alerts in the VCH region, text "alert" to (236) 999-DOPE (3673)**

This report summarizes key indicators for Fourier Transform Infrared (FTIR)/fentanyl test strip combination drug checking done in British Columbia in December 2019.

As there is 5% fentanyl detection limit on the Bruker ALPHA Fourier-Transform Infrared (FTIR) spectrometer (McCrae, 2019), a drug check on any given sample consists of both the FTIR 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.

Benzodiazepine-positivity of opioid samples are determined using BTNX benzodiazepine test strips, which have not been formally evaluated for drug checking. Therefore, the results presented above are presumptive and tentative until confirmed by a laboratory.

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

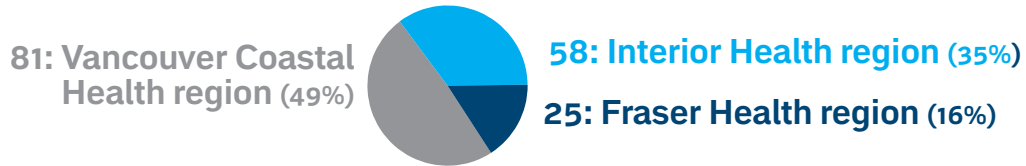
\*"Fentanyl not tested" means that a fentanyl test strip wasn't done for the sample because the client declined to do the test, or they left before the test was able to be completed.

December  
2019

# Drug Checking in British Columbia

# of Samples Tested by Region:

Total #: 164



## # of samples that matched client expectation

*\*using FTIR/test strip drug checking*

<p>EXPECTED DRUG: <b>Depressant</b> 3 Samples Tested</p> <p>Matched: 3</p>	<p>EXPECTED DRUG: <b>Psychedelic</b> 19 Samples Tested</p> <p>Matched: 19</p>	<p>EXPECTED DRUG: <b>Stimulant</b> 31 Samples Tested</p> <p>Matched: 30 Did not match: 1</p>	<p>EXPECTED DRUG: <b>Polysubstance</b> 1 Sample Tested</p> <p>Matched: 1</p>
<p>EXPECTED DRUG: <b>Unknown</b> 12 Samples Tested</p> <p>Match not determined: 12</p>	<p>EXPECTED DRUG: <b>Opioid</b> 99 Samples Tested</p> <p>Matched: 94 Did not match: 4 Match not determined: 1</p>		

### Total

164 Samples Tested



Please note that the presence of the expected substance does not imply purity, as samples frequently contain adulterating cutting agents

## # of opioid samples that matched client expectation

*\*using FTIR/test strip drug checking*

EXPECTED DRUG:

### Down

12 Samples Tested



Matched: 11

Match not determined: 1

EXPECTED DRUG:

### Heroin

7 Samples Tested



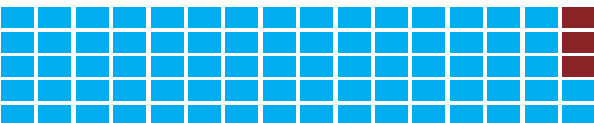
Matched: 6

Did not match: 1

EXPECTED DRUG:

### Fentanyl

80 Samples Tested

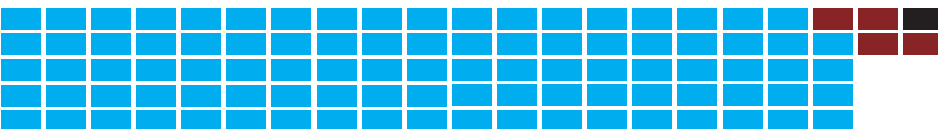


Matched: 77

Did not match: 3

### Total

99 Samples Tested



Matched: 94

Did not match: 4

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 gratefully acknowledges the contributions of the following partners:

Portland Hotel Society | Insite | Molson Overdose Prevention Site | SisterSpace | Overdose Prevention Society | SafePoint  
The Abbotsford Community Hub | ANKORS | ASK Wellness | St. Paul's Overdose Prevention Site | Powell Street Getaway | Three Bridges

