

March  
2020

# Drug Checking in Interior Health

## # of Samples Tested by Expected Drug Category:

49 Samples Tested

Opioid 10 / Stimulant: 13 / Psychedelic: 15 / Unknown: 10 / Depressant: 1 / Other: 0 / Polysubstance: 0



## Common Components, Cuts and Buffs

### UP

Cocaine

### SIDE

Methamphetamine

Dimethyl sulfone

### DOWN

Fentanyl  
Caffeine  
Sweeteners  
Acetaminophen  
Heroin

## # of samples tested for fentanyl

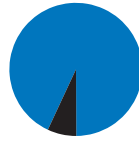
10 Opioid samples



10 FENTANYL POSITIVE (100%)

15 Psychedelic samples

14 FENTANYL NEGATIVE (93%)



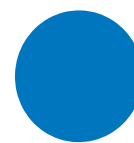
1 FENTANYL NOT TESTED\* (7%)

13 Stimulant samples



13 FENTANYL NEGATIVE (100%)

1 Depressant sample



1 FENTANYL NEGATIVE (100%)

10 Unknown samples

8 FENTANYL NEGATIVE (80%)



2 FENTANYL POSITIVE (20%)

## Public Health Notifications

Date & Location	Expected Drug	Drugs Detected	Fentanyl Strip	What does this mean?
No March alerts for Interior Health				

For information about Public Health alerts, please visit:

<https://www.interiorhealth.ca/AboutUs/Leadership/MHO/Pages/PHEmergency.aspx>

This report summarizes key indicators for Fourier Transform Infrared (FTIR)/fentanyl test strip combination drug checking done in Interior Health in March 2020.

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.

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.

## # of drugs checks at each respective site:

Location	# of Drug Checks
ANKORS (Nelson)	23
ASK Head Office (Kamloops)	11
ASK Merritt	2
ASK Penticton	4
Kipp-Mallery Landmark (Kamloops)	2
Cammy Lafleur Street Clinic (Vernon)	4
The Bus Mobile OPS	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>49</b>

## # of samples that matched client expectation

*\*using FTIR/test strip drug checking*

EXPECTED DRUG:

**Psychedelic**

15 Samples Tested



Matched: 13

Did not match: 2

EXPECTED DRUG:

**Stimulant**

13 Samples Tested



Matched: 13

EXPECTED DRUG:

**Unknown**

10 Samples Tested



Match not determined: 10

EXPECTED DRUG:

**Opioid**

10 Samples Tested



Matched: 10

EXPECTED DRUG:

**Depressant**

1 Sample Tested



Did not match: 1

**Total**

49 Samples Tested



Matched: 36

Did not match: 3

Match not determined: 10

## # of opioid samples that matched client expectation

*\*using FTIR/test strip drug checking*

EXPECTED DRUG:  
**Fentanyl**  
7 Samples Tested



Matched: 7

EXPECTED DRUG:  
**Fentanyl and Heroin**  
1 Sample Tested



Matched: 1

EXPECTED DRUG:  
**Down**  
2 Samples Tested



Matched: 2

**Total**  
10 Samples Tested



Matched: 10

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 acknowledge the contributions of the following partners:

ANKORS | ASK Wellness | Kipp-Mallery Pharmacies | Manshadi Pharmacy | The Branch

