



Benzos in the Drug Supply

WHAT DID WE DO?

We looked at benzo adulteration in the drug supply through drug checking services in Vancouver.

Please note some benzos can't always be detected and the numbers reported here may be an underestimate of what's in the drug supply.

WHAT WE USED:



FENTANYL AND
BENZO TEST STRIPS



FOURIER TRANSFORM
INFRARED
SPECTROSCOPY (FTIR)



LAB CONFIRMATORY TESTING

WHAT WE FOUND:



16%

expected-opioid
samples had at least
1 benzo in them



14%

expected-opioid
samples had both a
benzo and an opioid

WHY DOES THIS MATTER?

Benzos and opioids both have sedation effects and together can greatly increase the risk of overdose.

Getting your drugs checked can help give you an idea of what substances are in them.

CITATION: Liang MK, Ti L, Marmel A, et al. An outbreak of novel psychoactive substance benzodiazepines in the unregulated drug supply: Preliminary results from a community drug checking program using point-of-care and confirmatory methods. Int J Drug Policy. 2021;93:103169. doi: 10.1016/j.drugpo.2021.103169



How you want to be treated.



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