



# Fentanyl Concentration in the Opioid Supply

## WHAT DID WE DO?

We looked at how the concentration of fentanyl changed in expected-opioid samples collected between 2017-2019 in Vancouver, BC.

## WHAT WE USED:



FENTANYL AND BENZO TEST STRIPS



FOURIER TRANSFORM INFRARED SPECTROSCOPY (FTIR)



LAB CONFIRMATORY TESTING

## WHAT WE FOUND:



Variability of fentanyl concentration in down decreased over the study period



From 2017 to 2019, average fentanyl concentration in down rose and fell in a cyclical pattern, ranging from **4.5% to 10.4%**

## WHY DOES THIS MATTER?

Unpredictability of the drug supply causes harm when people don't know how strong their drugs are. Drug checking can help people figure out what's in their drugs.

*CITATION: Tobias S, Grant C, Laing R, et al. Time-series analysis of fentanyl concentration in the unregulated opioid drug supply in a Canadian setting. Am J Epidemiol. 2022;191(2):214-247. doi: 10.1093/aje/kwab129*



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