



Adverse Events After Using Unregulated Opioids

WHAT DID WE DO?

We looked at whether different adulterants (fentanyl, fluorofentanyl, benzodiazepines, and xylazine) were associated with self-reported adverse events experienced by people after using unregulated opioids.

WHAT WE USED:



FOURIER TRANSFORM
INFRARED
SPECTROSCOPY (FTIR)



PEOPLES' EXPERIENCE



FENTANYL AND
BENZO TEST STRIPS

WHAT WE FOUND:



of expected-opioid samples checked after consumption were associated with an adverse event



Benzodiazepines and xylazine were both found to increase the prevalence of adverse events (i.e., non-fatal overdose, prolonged sedation, seizures, dizziness and confusion, agitation)

WHY DOES THIS MATTER?

Understanding how different adulterants are related to adverse health events is important to ensure public health interventions and harm reduction services are able to address the needs of people who use drugs.

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