



State of New Hampshire

Department of Safety



Division of Fire Standards and Training & Emergency Medical Services
 Richard M. Flynn Fire Academy
 98 Smokey Bear Boulevard, Concord, New Hampshire
 Mailing Address: 33 Hazen Drive, Concord, New Hampshire 03305-0002

John J. Barthelmes
 Commissioner

Robert Quinn and Richard C. Bailey, Jr.
 Assistant Commissioners

Deborah A. Pendergast
 Director

CLINICAL BULLETIN

| Bulletin # | Title | | | Date Issued |
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| 37 | Synthetic Fentanyl Analogues and Personal Protection Recommendations | | | February 16, 2017 |
| Superseded | Released By | Approved By | Source | |
| | P. Holigan | Jim Suozzi, DO | Centers for Disease Control and NH Bureau of EMS | |

Recently, first responders in several states have come in contact with synthetic fentanyl during medical call responses. Questions have been raised in regard to recommended personal protective equipment and handling of synthetic fentanyl analogues. This bulletin provides guidance to help protect responders from accidental exposures.

Q: Have questions about “white powder” been added to the 9-1-1 EMD protocol so dispatchers can advise responders about safety precautions?

A: This clinical bulletin and Clinical Bulletin #35 have been sent to New Hampshire PSAP Operations for distribution.

Q: Is law enforcement aware of the effects of synthetic fentanyl analogues such as Furanylfentanyl?

A: This clinical bulletin and Clinical Bulletin #35 have been sent to the New Hampshire Police Academy for distribution.

Q: What personal protection equipment is recommended to minimize exposure to potential synthetic fentanyl analogues?

A: The use of various synthetic fentanyl analogues, such as Furanylfentanyl and Carfentanil, are on the rise in several states. Providers should exercise caution and follow local protocol when responding to calls where drugs, drug paraphernalia, or unidentified powders are present to minimize the risk of inhalation or contact with skin.

The Centers for Disease Control, National Personal Protective Technology Laboratory (NPPTL), has the following recommendations for those who may come in contact with synthetic fentanyl analogues while responding to 9-1-1 calls.

Responders should refer to the NIOSH page on FENTANYL regarding the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) to wear. The NIOSH Fentanyl page and additional information on exposure and decontamination procedures are located here:

http://www.cdc.gov/NIOSH/ershdb/EmergencyResponseCard_29750022.html

NIOSH cannot recommend specific manufacturers or a specific model of PPE; they can only provide general guidance on the criteria to consider when making purchasing decisions. Individual PPE manufacturers should be contacted with specific questions about PPE.

NIOSH-certified CBRN respirators can be found by searching the certified equipment list (CEL) at:

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/npptl/topics/respirators/cel/default.html>.

Respirators need to be used in the context of complete respiratory protection program per the OSHA regulation 29 CFR 1910.134:

https://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_id=12716&p_table=STANDARDS.

Complete respiratory protection includes fit testing which indicates that the proper size face piece is being worn. To reach your regional or area OSHA office, go to OSHA's Regional & Area Offices webpage: <https://www.osha.gov/html/RAmap.html> or call 1-800-321-OSHA (6742).

Information about respirator types, how to identify approved models, outlets for purchase, and proper respirator use can be found at:

http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/npptl/topics/respirators/disp_part/RespSource.html.

Q: The effects of Furanylfentanyl may not be immediate. How long after exposure could someone be affected by this drug?

A: After an exposure, the effects of Furanylfentanyl and other synthetic fentanyl analogues may depend on several factors, such as length of exposure, concentration, and responder's general health. Responders that come in contact with an unknown substance where drugs or drug paraphernalia are present should seek immediate medical attention.

Q: How much Narcan™ is needed to reverse a Furanylfentanyl overdose?

A: Doses may vary for individuals. Providers must follow NH protocol for substance overdose and contact Medical Control if additional Narcan™ dosing is needed.