

WHATCOM HAS
HOPE

Talk to your
kids about

Fentanyl



It can come in pills, powder, and liquid and can't be identified by look, smell, or taste.

It is about 100 times more potent than morphine and 50 times more potent than heroin.

It is powerful and can cause overdose without people knowing they are taking it.

How do you protect your kids?

Talk to them!

**OPIOID MISUSE
IS PREVENTABLE**

Talk to teens about fentanyl

Children whose parents talk to them about the risks of drugs and alcohol are 50% less likely to use substances.

What you need to know about fentanyl.

- Fentanyl is a powerful, fast-acting opioid used to manage pain. Regulated (legal) fentanyl is used in medical settings.
- Unregulated (illicit) fentanyl is a street drug, often sold as fake prescription pills, powder, and liquid, and can't be identified by look, smell, or taste.
- Because fentanyl is strong and cheap to produce, people who manufacture illegal drugs use fentanyl to make their drugs more powerful and less expensive to manufacture.
- It is possible for someone to take a pill without knowing it contains fentanyl. It is also possible to take a pill knowing it contains fentanyl, but with no way of knowing if it contains a lethal dose.

How to talk to your kids about fentanyl.

- Stay calm and non-judgemental. Think of it as an open-ended conversation, and listen.
- Avoid scare tactics.
- Tell them how much you care.
- Help them prepare to respond to pressure to try drugs.
- Choose places to talk where you can focus, like a car ride.
- Keep the conversation going rather than having one big talk.



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WHATCOM COUNTY

**HEALTH AND
COMMUNITY SERVICES**