Types of Fentanyl Test Strips

There are several types of Fentanyl Test Strips on the market.

Fraser Health uses BTNX™ test strips. This brand has been tested and is good at detecting small amounts of fentanyl and some fentanyl analogues.

For more information on using BTNX strips as a harm reduction tool, visit **btnx.com/HarmReduction**.

✚ Positive test result

One red line means **there is fentanyl** in the sample.

➖ Negative test result

Two red lines mean there is **no fentanyl** in the sample.

❓ Not clear test result or invalid test

The red line closest to the solid blue area should always your test result. When it is not there, it means the result is not clear. Stirring with the strip or wetting the strip above the wavy lines could cause this. We call it an invalid test result. Test again with a new strip.

Tips for staying safe when using Fentanyl Test Strips

- Try not to use alone.
- Take turns using.
- Start with small amounts.

Pick up a Take Home Naloxone kit. Learn how to spot an overdose and how to help, like giving breaths.

For more information, visit:

- **naloxonetraining.com**
- **towardtheheart.com**

Don't mix substances, including alcohol. Mixing substances increases the chances of an overdose.

Use where help is easily available, like an Overdose Prevention Site or Supervised Consumption Site if available.

If you think someone is overdosing:

- Call 911
- Stay with them until help arrives
- The Good Samaritan Drug Overdose Act provides some protection.

No matter what the test results tell you, always stay safe.

Drug checking with Fentanyl Test Strips

A STEP BY STEP GUIDE

**Population and Public Health
respect caring trust**

fraserhealth.ca/drugchecking

This information does not replace the advice given to you by your health care provider.

fraserhealth

Drug checking with fentanyl test strips

1

Check drugs before use (where possible).

Fentanyl Test Strips can be used to check any drug, equipment or baggie residue.

Check drugs every time you use. The amount of Fentanyl can vary from one use to the next and be unevenly distributed — one sample could have a negative test result. The next sample could have a positive test result.

2

Put 30mL (1 ounce) of room temperature tap water in a small cup.

A shot glass is equal to 30mL (1 ounce).

3

Put a very small sample of the substance you are checking into the water – equal to a few grains of sand.
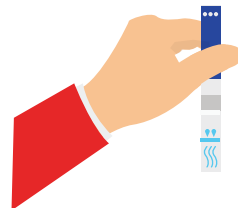
Please note: It is important not to add too much of the sample. This can interfere with results.

4

Open package by notched end.

Hold strip by solid blue end only.

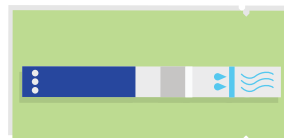**Do not** touch white end.

5

Place strip in water, covering wavy lines. **Be careful not to go above solid line.**

Hold strip in water for **15 seconds** or, wait for the red stripe to appear.

Do not make dipping or stirring motions.

6

Place strip on strip package and wait **1 to 2 minutes** for results.

Interpreting the results

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❓ Not clear test result or invalid test

The red line closest to the solid blue area should alway show in your test result. When it is not there, it means the result is not clear. Stirring with the strip or wetting the strip above the wavy lines could cause this. We call it an invalid test result. Test again with a new strip.

- If you think the substance is a stimulant and you have a positive test result:
  1. Add another 30mL of tap water to the cup.
  2. Test again with a new test strip.

  Large amounts of stimulants can lead to false positives.

- A negative test result does not mean the substance is safe. **Fentanyl Test Strips are not 100% accurate.** Plus fentanyl is only one of many drugs that can cause an overdose.

- Fentanyl Test Strips only check if fentanyl is present in the portion tested. They **do not** tell you how much is in the substance or how strong the substance is.