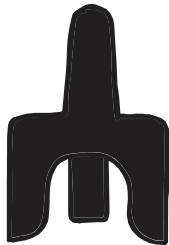


XYLAZINE or "TRANQ"

Xylazine is an animal tranquilizer that is not approved for use in humans due to harmful side effects. Xylazine is being added to street drugs more often and is often found mixed with fentanyl to mimic the high of heroin. Dope with xylazine was first seen in Puerto Rico in the early 2000s but it is now being found all across the US.

When xylazine is mixed with another drug like fentanyl, heroin, or benzos, the chance of overdose increases.



If someone is overdosing, call 911, give the person naloxone, and do rescue breathing.

If the person starts breathing again but is still sedated (drowsy or sleepy), they do not need any more naloxone. Put them on their side and watch them until the paramedics arrive.

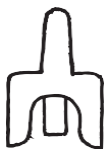
People who regularly use xylazine often have severe skin ulcers and abscesses, which can spread and worsen quickly.



These wounds are seen regardless of how people use (smoking, snorting, injecting, etc.) and often present away from the site of injection. It is very difficult for these wounds to heal on their own so it is important to get medical attention if you have any.

What can you do if you think there is Xylazine in your dope?

Ask around and see how the drug is making other people feel before you buy or use it. Since xylazine can cause a really heavy nod, try to use somewhere that you will be safe and won't fall and hurt yourself. And, if you think there is xylazine in your drugs let others know including someone at your local exchange program so folks know to be careful.



Carry naloxone
(Narcan)



Start low
Go slow



Tell someone
you're using

Never Use Alone

English hotline: 800-484-3731

Spanish hotline: 800-928-5330

Frequently Asked Questions

- **What are the signs and symptoms of a xylazine-involved overdose?**

The main effect of xylazine is heavy sedation (drowsiness or sleepiness), so the person who has overdosed will likely be unresponsive. When xylazine is found in combination with fentanyl, the signs and symptoms can include blue/greyish skin, small pupils, low body temperature, dry mouth, slow heartbeat, unconsciousness, and slowed or stopped breathing.

- **Does naloxone (Narcan) reverse xylazine-involved overdoses?**

Naloxone should always be administered whenever an opioid-involved overdose is suspected. Xylazine is often found in combination with opioids but naloxone will only work on any opioids in the persons system. A xylazine overdose can be treated in the hospital with supportive care.

- **Can a person experience withdrawal from xylazine?**

Yes, people who use xylazine heavily and frequently are at risk of withdrawal. Xylazine withdrawal is often marked by irritability, anxiety, and a feeling of unease. It may also cause a rapid heart rate and high blood pressure, although these are not always present.

- **Why does xylazine often get mixed with fentanyl?**

The “high” from fentanyl lasts for a very short time compared to the high from heroin and other opioids. Xylazine may be added, at least in part, to extend the effects of fentanyl and mimic the high of heroin. However, not everyone who uses fentanyl is intentionally seeking out xylazine. In some cases, people are not aware that xylazine is in the drugs they are buying and using.

Does xylazine cause skin ulcers or abscesses?

People who regularly use xylazine often report having severe skin ulcers and abscesses

**The Harm Reduction Clinic
specializes in wound care**

Mondays and Thursdays 11:00am - 5:30pm.

12425 NE Glisan St. Portland OR, 97230

**Call 503-988-0577 to schedule an
appointment.**

Is there an easy way to test for xylazine?

There is a company that is currently working on test strips for xylazine.

Outside In

**currently has a drug checking program on
Mondays & Wednesdays 12:00pm - 4:00pm**

1219 SW Main St. Portland OR, 97205

Call 503-535-3826 for more info.