



Drug Alert

Xylazine - Detected in Region



Northwestern
Health Unit

www.nwhu.on.ca

What is it? It is a tranquilizer used on large animals. It is not for human use.

Sold as/in: Mixed into unregulated drugs, mostly in fentanyl.

Risk: Xylazine mixed with opioids can increase risk and severity of an overdose.
Naloxone has no effect on Xylazine

Side Effects: Slow/irregular breathing, low blood pressure and heart rate, drowsiness, confusion, slurred speech, blurred vision.
Severe skin lesions/abscesses
Death

What does an overdose look like?

Similar to an opioid overdose: slowed/irregular breathing, loss of consciousness

Although naloxone is not effective on Xylazine, naloxone needs to be administered as it will have an effect on any opioid also present.

Ways to stay safe

Try not to use alone

- Buddy up with someone you trust.
- Don't use at the same time. Make sure the other person is okay before you use.

Carry Naloxone and know how to use it

- Visit Northwestern Health Unit for a kit & refresher on how to save a life.
- If you think someone is overdosing, give Naloxone!

If you must use alone, have a safety plan

- Get someone to check on you in person or by phone.
- Download the lifeguard app - it could save your life!
- Call NORS before you use 1-888-688-NORS (6677).

See a health care provider if:

- you have a wound - left untreated, it could lead to amputation.
- you need to talk about an overdose or other experience.
- you need other health care.

Call 911 if you think someone is overdosing!

Call Northwestern Health Unit for more information:

1-800-830-5978