

May
2020

Drug Checking in Interior Health

of Samples Tested by Expected Drug Category:

46 Samples Tested

Opioid 28 / Stimulant: 8 / Psychedelic: 9 / Unknown: 1 / Depressant: 0 / Other: 0 / Polysubstance: 0



Common Components, Cuts and Buffs

UP

- Cocaine
- Sweeteners

SIDE

- Methamphetamine

DOWN

- Methamphetamine
- Caffeine
- Fentanyl
- Sweeteners
- Acetaminophen
- Heroin
- Polyethylene glycol

of samples tested for fentanyl

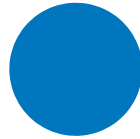
28 Opioid samples

27 FENTANYL POSITIVE (96%)



1 FENTANYL NEGATIVE (4%)

9 Psychedelic samples



9 FENTANYL NEGATIVE (100%)

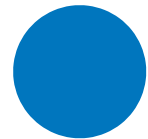
8 Stimulant samples

6 FENTANYL NEGATIVE (75%)



2 FENTANYL NOT TESTED* (25%)

1 Unknown sample



1 FENTANYL NEGATIVE (100%)

Public Health Notifications

Date & Location	Expected Drug	Drugs Detected	Fentanyl Strip	Benzo Strip	Area Purchased	What does this mean?
21 May 2020- Nelson, BC	Down	Fentanyl or analogue and unknown benzo	Positive	Positive	Nelson	Buddy up when using drugs and check your drugs at any OPS or SCS.
During the month of May, 57.0% of expected opioid samples tested positive for benzodiazepines using benzo test strips in the Interior Health region (4 samples of 7 tested)						

For information about Public Health alerts, please visit:
<https://www.interiorhealth.ca/AboutUs/Leadership/MHO/Pages/PHEmergency.aspx>

This report summarizes key indicators for Fourier Transform Infrared (FTIR)/fentanyl test strip combination drug checking done in Interior Health in May 2020. As there is 5% fentanyl detection limit on the Bruker ALPHA Fourier-Transform Infrared (FTIR) spectrometer (McCrae, 2019), a drug check on any given sample consists of both the FTIR and BTNX fentanyl immunoassay test strip testing done in combination. When applicable, BTNX benzodiazepine or lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD) immunoassay test strips are also used.

Please note that these data are not finalized and are subject to change.

* "Fentanyl not tested" means that a fentanyl test strip wasn't done for the sample because the client declined to do the test, or they left before the test was able to be completed.

of drugs checks at each respective site:

Location	# of Drug Checks
ANKORS (Nelson)	23
ASK Wellness Head Office (Kamloops)	17
The Bus Mobile OPS	6
Total	46

of samples that matched client expectation

**using FTIR/test strip drug checking*

EXPECTED DRUG:

Psychedelic

9 Samples Tested



Matched: 7

Did not match: 2

EXPECTED DRUG:

Stimulant

8 Samples Tested



Matched: 8

EXPECTED DRUG:

Unknown

1 Sample Tested



Match not determined: 1

EXPECTED DRUG:

Opioid

28 Samples Tested



Matched: 27

Did not match: 1

Total

46 Samples Tested



Matched: 42

Did not match: 3

Match not determined: 1

of opioid samples that matched client expectation

**using FTIR/test strip drug checking*

EXPECTED DRUG:

Down

11 Samples Tested



Matched: 11

EXPECTED DRUG:

Fentanyl

17 Samples Tested



Matched: 16

Did not match: 1

Total

28 Samples Tested



Matched: 27

Did not match: 1

Please note that the presence of the expected substance does not imply purity, as samples frequently contain adulterating cutting agents
*‘Down’ can refer to any opioid drug present in any amount

Depressant may include:

benzodiazepines,
GHB, zopiclone

Opioid may include:

“down,” heroin, fentanyl,
fentanyl analogues,
pharmaceutical opioids

Polysubstance includes:

cross-category mixtures

Psychedelic may include:

2C-family, tryptamines,
ketamine, MDMA,
LSD, cannabis

Stimulant may include:

“speed”, crystal meth,
cocaine, cathinones

Unknown includes:

all samples in which the
client could not identify the
expected substance

BCCSU gratefully acknowledge the contributions of the following partners:

ANKORS | ASK Wellness | Kipp-Mallery Pharmacies | Manshadi Pharmacy | The Branch

