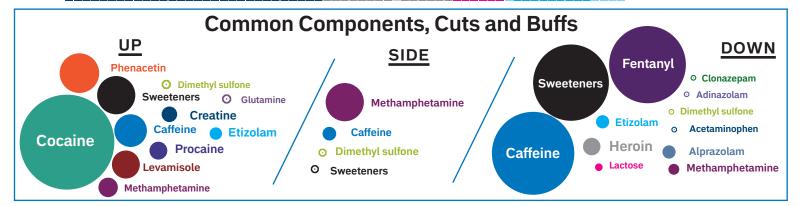
## **Drug Checking in Vancouver Coastal Health**

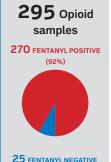
### # of Samples Tested by Expected Drug Category:

706 Samples Tested

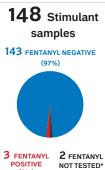
Opioid: 295 / Stimulant: 148 / Depressant: 68 / Psychedelic: 134 / Unknown: 51 / Other: 9 / Polysubstance: 1



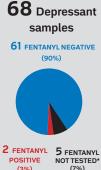
# # of samples tested for fentanyl

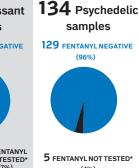


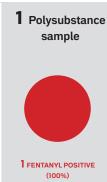
(8%)

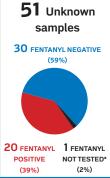


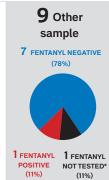
(1%)













### **PUBLIC HEALTH NOTIFICATIONS**

Date & Location	Expected Drug	Drugs Detected	Fentanyl Strip	Benzo Strip	Area Purchased	What does this mean?
25 September 2020- Vancouver	Down	Fentanyl	N/A	N/A	Vancouver	High level of fentanyl may cause overdose; take a tester shot and use at any OPS/SCS
25 September 2020- Vancouver	Unknown	Etodesnitazene (a novel opioid-like drug), crystal meth, cocaine, fentanyl and caffeine	N/A	N/A	Vancouver	Etodesnitazene is a new opioid-like drug and it's safety is unknown. Check your drugs and don't use alone!
4 September 2020- Vancouver	Unknown	Furanyl UF-17, fentanyl and caffeine	N/A	N/A	North Vancouver	Check your drugs!

### To receive drug contamination alerts, text "alert" to (236) 999-DOPE (3673)

During the month of September, **6.29**% of expected opioid samples tested positive for benzodiazepines using benzo test strips in the Vancouver Coastal Health region **(16 samples of 254 tested)** 

This report summarizes key indicators for Fourier Transform Infrared (FTIR)/fentanyl test strip combination drug checking done in Vancouver Coastal Health in September 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 fentanyl test strip testing done in combination. When applicable, benzodiazepine or lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD) test strips are also used.

Benzodiazepine-positivity of opioid samples are determined using benzodiazepine test strips, which have not been formally evaluated for drug checking. Therefore, the results presented above are presumptive and tentative until confirmed by a labratory.

\* "Fentanyl not tested" means that a fentanyl test stip 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 and hours at each respective site:

Location	# of Drug Checks	Hours
Overdose Prevention Society OPS	208	54
Insite	5	3
Get Your Drugs Tested	493	168
Total	636	225

### # of samples that matched client expectation

\*using FTIR/test strip drug checking



68 Samples Tested



Matched: 43

Did not match: 24 Match not determined: 1

**EXPECTED DRUG:** Unknown

51 Samples Tested



Match not determined: 51

**EXPECTED DRUG: Stimulant** 

148 Samples Tested



Matched: 139 Did not match: 9

**EXPECTED DRUG:** 

295 Samples Tested

**Opioid** 

Matched: 278

Did not match: 12

Match not determined: 5

**EXPECTED DRUG:** 

**Psychedelic** 134 Samples Tested



Matched: 121 Did not match: 13 EXPECTED DRUG:

### **Polysubstance**

1 Sample Tested



Matched: 1

**EXPECTED DRUG:** Other

9 Samples Tested



Matched: 8 Did not match: 1

**Total** 706 Samples Tested



Matched: 590

Did not match: 59

Match not determined: 57

### **Drug Checking in Vancouver Coastal Health**

### # of opioid samples that matched client expectation

\*using FTIR/test strip drug checking

**EXPECTED DRUG:** 

#### Heroin

10 Samples Tested



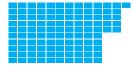
Matched: 7

Did not match: 3

**EXPECTED DRUG:** 

#### **Fentanyl**

121 Samples Tested



Matched: 121

EXPECTED DRUG:

#### Fentanyl and Heroin

2 Samples Tested



Did not match: 2

# EXPECTED DRUG: Opium

3 Samples Tested



Matched: 3

**EXPECTED DRUG:** 

#### Down

143 Samples Tested



Matched: 140 Did not match: 3

**EXPECTED DRUG:** 

#### **Pharmaceutical**

16 Samples Tested



Matched: 5

Did not match: 6

Match not determined: 5

**Total** 

295 Samples Tested



Matched: 278
Did not match: 12
Match not determined: 5

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

KARMIK

### BCCSU and VCH gratefully acknowledge the contributions of the following partners:

Portland Hotel Society | Insite | Molson Overdose Prevention Site | SisterSpace | Overdose Prevention Society

St. Paul's Overdose Prevention Site | Powell Street Getaway | Three Bridges







**%**Trovidence







