October 2020

Drug Checking in Interior Health

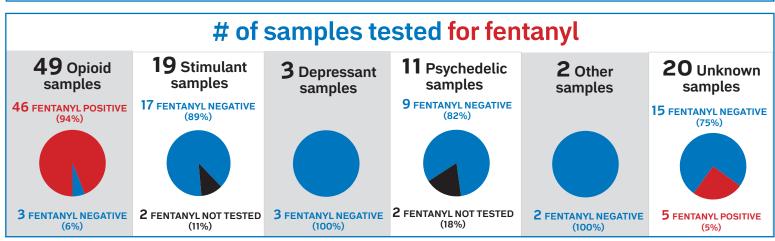
of Samples Tested by Expected Drug Category:

104 Samples Tested

Opioid 49 / Stimulant: 19 / Depressant: 3 / Psychedelic: 11 Unknown: 20 / Other: 2 / Polysubstance: 0







Public Health Notifications Expected Fentanyl Benzo Area **Date & Location Drugs Detected** What does this mean? **Strip Strip Purchased** Drug 29 October 2020-Check your drugs at any local OPS or **MDMA** Fentanyl (no MDMA) N/A N/A Cranbrook ANKORS, Cranbrook

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

During the month of October, 12.24% of expected opioid samples tested positive for benzodiazepines using benzo test strips in the Interior Health region (6 samples of 49 tested)

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

Depressant may include: benzodiazepines,

Opioid may include: "down," heroin, fentanyl, GHB, zopiclone 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

Data represented here are collected from the Interior Health Region. Drug samples are tested using the Fourier Transform Infrared (FTIR) spectrometer in combination with fentanyl test strips and benzodiazapine test strips.

There is 5% fentanyl detection limit on the 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 immunoassay test strips are also used.





Drug Checking in Interior Health

of drugs checks at each respective site:

Location	# of Drug Checks
ANKORS (Nelson)	51
ASK Wellness Head Office (Kamloops)	30
ASK Wellness (Penticton)	4
ASK Wellness (Merritt)	9
ASK Wellness (Vernon)	4
Kiro Wellness Centre (Trail)	6
Total	104

of samples that matched client expectation

*using FTIR/test strip drug checking

EXPECTED DRUG:

Stimulant

19 Samples Tested



Matched: 18

Did not match: 1

EXPECTED DRUG:

Opioid

49 Samples Tested



Matched: 47

Did not match: 1

Match not determined: 1

EXPECTED DRUG:

Depressant

3 Samples Tested



Matched: 2

Did not match: 1

EXPECTED DRUG:

Other

2 Samples Tested



Matched: 1

Did not match: 1

EXPECTED DRUG:

Psychedelic

11 Samples Tested



Matched: 9

Did not match: 2

EXPECTED DRUG:

Unknown

20 Samples Tested



Match not determined: 20

Total

104 Samples Tested



Matched: 77

Did not match: 6

Match not determined: 21

Drug Checking in Interior Health

of opioid samples that matched client expectation

*using FTIR/test strip drug checking

EXPECTED DRUG:

Down

9 Samples Tested



Matched: 9

EXPECTED DRUG:

Fentanyl

38 Samples Tested



Matched: 37
Did not match: 1

EXPECTED DRUG:

Heroin

1 Sample Tested



Matched: 1

EXPECTED DRUG:

Pharmaceutical

1 Sample Tested



Match not determined: 1

Total

49 Samples Tested



Matched: 47

Did not match: 1

Match not determined: 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.

BCCSU gratefully acknowledge the contributions of the following partners:

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









