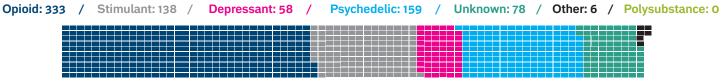
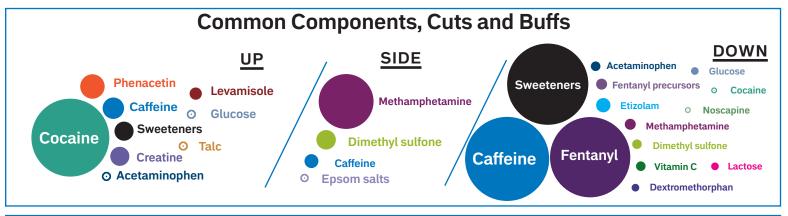
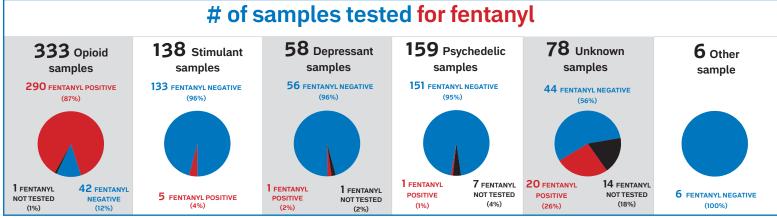
# **Drug Checking in Vancouver Coastal Health**

## # of Samples Tested by Expected Drug Category:

772 Samples Tested









## **PUBLIC HEALTH NOTIFICATIONS**

Date & Location	Expected Drug	Drugs Detected	Fentanyl Strip	Benzo Strip	Area Purchased	What does this mean?
25 November 2020- Overdose Prevention Site OPS, Vancouver	Fentanyl	Caffeine, erythritol, fentanyl	Positive	Positive	DTES	Combining down and benzos may cause prolonged overdose symptoms – check your drugs!

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

During the month of November, 14.38% of expected opioid samples tested positive for benzodiazepines using benzo test strips in the Vancouver Coastal Health region (45 samples of 313 tested)

Opioid samples are tested for benzodiazepine-positivity using BTNX test strips. The results presented above are presumptive and tentative until confirmed by a laboratory.

Data represented here are collected from the Vancouver Coastal 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.





# # of drugs checks and hours at each respective site:

Location	# of Drug Checks	Hours
Overdose Prevention Society OPS	143	45
Insite	26	14
Get Your Drugs Tested	603	240
Total	772	299

## # of samples that matched client expectation

using FTIR/test strip drug checking

EXPECTED DRUG:

Depressant

58 Samples Tested



Matched: 31 Did not match: 27 Stimulant
138 Samples Tested



Matched: 133
Did not match: 4
Match not determined: 1

**EXPECTED DRUG:** 

Psychedelic
159 Samples Tested



Matched: 139 Did not match: 20 EXPECTED DRUG:

Other
6 Samples Tested



Matched: 5

Match not determined: 1

**EXPECTED DRUG:** 

**Opioid** 

333 Samples Tested



Matched: 283
Did not match: 46
Match not determined: 4

EXPECTED DRUG: Unknown

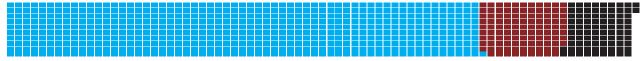
78 Samples Tested



Match not determined: 78

#### **Total**

772 Samples Tested



Matched: 591

Did not match: 97

Match not determined: 84

# **Drug Checking in Vancouver Coastal Health**

## # of opioid samples that matched client expectation

using FTIR/test strip drug checking

**EXPECTED DRUG:** 

#### Heroin

19 Samples Tested

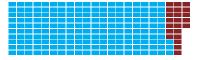


Matched: 6

Did not match: 13

**EXPECTED DRUG: Fentanyl** 

215 Samples Tested



Matched: 193 Did not match: 22 **EXPECTED DRUG:** 

#### Fentanyl and Heroin

1 Sample Tested



**EXPECTED DRUG:** 

## Fentanyl Analogue

1 Sample Tested



**EXPECTED DRUG:** 

### Opium

2 Samples Tested



Matched: 2

Matched: 1

**EXPECTED DRUG:** 

### Down

81 Samples Tested



Matched: 78 Did not match: 3 **EXPECTED DRUG:** 

Did not match: 1

### **Pharmaceutical**

14 Samples Tested



Matched: 3

Did not match: 7

Match not determined: 4

#### **Total**

333 Samples Tested



Matched: 283 Did not match: 46 Match not determined: 4

> 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, etizolam, GHB, hypnotics

Opioid may include: "down," heroin, fentanyl, pharmaceutical opioids

Polysubstance includes: cross-category mixtures

Psychedelic may include: MDMA and related, 2C-family, tryptamines, ketamine, LSD

Stimulant may include: methamphetamine.

"speed," cocaine and crack cocaine, cathinones

#### Unknown includes:

Samples where the individual was unable to identify an expected substance. This includes found samples.

## 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















