



Drug Trend Alert: Nitazenes

June 2024

In Hamilton County, there has been an increase in nitazenes (a synthetic opioid) detected in the drug supply.

Nitazenes increase the risk of respiratory depression and death due to their strength.

Strength compared to morphine:

Isotonitazene	75x stronger
Fentanyl	100x stronger
Metonitazene	100x stronger
Protonitazene	200x stronger
Etonitazene	1500x stronger
N-pyrrolidino etonitazene	1500x stronger

Harm Reduction Resources

- **Start with a low dose to see how you are affected.** If swallowing the drug, it will take longer to take effect than other methods such as injecting.
- **Avoid using alone.** Try to have a sober person in close proximity to help if needed.
- **Have more than one dose of naloxone available.** Multiple doses might be necessary to reverse an overdose.
- If you are uncertain whether someone is overdosing, **call 911 for an ambulance and do not leave the person alone.**
- Fentanyl test strips will **not** detect nitazenes.