

ASPR TRACIE Technical Assistance Request

Requestor:

Requestor Phone:

Requestor Email:

Request Receipt Date (by ASPR TRACIE): 10 August 2017

Response Date: 10 August 2017

Type of TA Request: Standard

Request:

██████████ asked for resources related to fentanyl in general and specific to protocols for fentanyl-contaminated areas.

Response:

The ASPR TRACIE team reviewed materials they had received related to fentanyl exposure and conducted a search for specific materials on protocols for fentanyl-contaminated areas.

Section I includes materials related specifically to responders exposed to fentanyl at crime scenes. Section II includes general resources on opioids for first responders, and Section III contains resources on the current opioid crisis, opioid addiction, and the use of naloxone to reverse overdoses.

I. Resources for Responders Exposed to Fentanyl at Crime Scenes

Blevins, M. (2017). [Fentanyl Lab Cleanup & the Growing Need for Educated Remediators](#). Restoration & Remediation Magazine.

The author of this article describes the complexity of the cleanup process for fentanyl, and what cleanup staff can staff should be on the lookout for as it relates to their safety.

Government of British Columbia, Justice Institute of British Columbia, Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police, et al. (2017). [Fentanyl Safety for First Responders](#).

While not specific to the U.S., this webpage includes helpful information regarding handling suspected drugs (including how to conduct a risk assessment of the scene) by level of risk. Tips for disposing equipment are included, as are helpful photos.

Graves, K. (2016). [Fentanyl Exposure: 5 Safety Tips for Cops](#). PoliceOne.com

The author explains the dangers associated with exposure to fentanyl and shares tips for responders to protect themselves. He encourages law enforcement conducting a raid to

treat each raid as if it were a drug lab and don protective gear (including respirators) ahead of time.

International Association of Chiefs of Police. (2016). [Increasing Safety for Law Enforcement Personnel and First Responders in Response to the Dangers of Fentanyl.](#)

This statement—released by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP)—provides information on fentanyl, including statistics, Drug Enforcement Administration-related activities, and ways in which the IACP strives to protect law enforcement and community members from the fentanyl crisis.

Law Enforcement Learning. (n.d.). [Fentanyl Safety, Decontamination and Identification.](#) (Accessed 8/10/2017. NOTE: There is a fee to register for this course.)

This online course is intended for law enforcement members who may come across fentanyl in their daily activities. Participants will learn more about: personal protective equipment related to possession of drug cases, street sales, and lab/bulk sales case; the signs and symptoms of fentanyl exposure; the routes of exposure that lead to fentanyl overdoses for first responders; self-protection from fentanyl exposure when working undercover; decontamination steps; risk assessments for “man down” calls (that can help prevent fentanyl contamination); and the history, dosage units and types of fentanyl that are on the street today.

Mettler, K. (2017). [‘I Was in Total Shock’: Ohio Police Officer Accidentally Overdoses After Traffic Stop.](#) Washington Post.

While he wore a mask and gloves to process a drug-related crime scene, Officer Chris Green unknowingly had drug residue containing fentanyl on his shirt, brushed it off with his bare hand, and overdosed.

National Institute of Standards and Technology. (2017). [Fentanyl Can Sicken First Responders—Researchers Offer a Solution.](#)

The author explains how first responders and evidence examiners can use screening technologies to reduce the risk of accidental exposure to synthetic opioids.

Wiebe, M. (2017). [Fentanyl: The Next Trend in Illicit Drug Lab Cleanup.](#) Restoration & Remediation Magazine.

The author of this article provides an overview of fentanyl, its origin and production process, the dangers of cross-contamination, the remediation process, and educational/awareness information.

II. General Resources for First Responders

Bureau of Justice Assistance National Training and Technical Assistance Center. (2017). [Law Enforcement Naloxone Toolkit](#).

This toolkit was designed to help law enforcement agencies develop their own naloxone program. It includes sample templates that can be downloaded and customized.

Indian Health Services. (n.d.). [First Responders \(Opioid Resources\)](#). (Accessed 8/10/2017.)

The video and “First Responder Naloxone Training Toolkit” on this page can help first responders learn more about naloxone procurement and storage and administration.

King, B.S., Musolin, K., and Choi, J. (2013). [Evaluation of Potential Employee Exposures during Crime and Death Investigations at a County Coroner’s Office](#). The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.

In October 2011 and January 2012, NIOSH evaluated coroner’s office in Ohio to determine if conditions and work practices at the facility were posing a health hazard to employees. This report provides information on the methods used by NIOSH during the evaluation, and their findings after the site visit. Evaluators found that some exposures to formaldehyde in the autopsy suite exceeded recommended exposure levels. Also lead contamination of surfaces in the firearms section and drug particle contamination of surfaces in the drug evidence laboratory may have posed health hazards. Recommendations were provided to improve work conditions and minimize exposures.

National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health. (2016). [Fentanyl: Preventing Occupational Exposure to Emergency Responders](#). Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Resources on this webpage include information on responder exposure risks, the use of personal protective equipment, and trends related to the illegal use of fentanyl across the U.S.

New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services. (n.d.). [Carfentanil and First Responders](#). (Accessed 8/10/2017.)

This tip sheet includes guidelines for first responders that can help them avoid exposure and revive people who have overdosed using naloxone. Graphics regarding donning and doffing protective gloves are also included.

New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services. (2014). [Opioid Overdose and Intranasal Naloxone Training for Law Enforcement](#).

In 2014, The New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS), in collaboration with several partners, offered a statewide opioid overdose reversal training initiative for law enforcement officers. Training included the identification of opioid overdoses and the administration of the medication.

North Carolina Office of EMS. (n.d.). [Opioid Overdose Prevention for Law Enforcement and First Responders](#). (Accessed 8/10/2017.)

This PowerPoint presentation was developed to help the public safety community recognize and treat suspected opioid overdoses. It includes state-specific information and helpful general information.

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. (2013). [Opioid Overdose Toolkit: Five Essential Steps for First Responders](#).

This document provides recommended steps to reduce the number of deaths resulting from opioid overdoses.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2017). [Opioids: Law Enforcement Resources](#).

The resources on this webpage can help law enforcement and other first responders gain a better understanding of the opioid epidemic and related laws, policies, and programs.

Vinehout, J. (n.d.). [New York Police Officers on Their Use of Naloxone](#). (Accessed 8/10/2017.)
Harm Reduction Coalition.

This video features New York City police officers sharing their experiences using and administering naloxone to prevent fatal opioid overdoses.

Massachusetts Technical Assistance Partnership for Prevention. (n.d.). [First Responder Naloxone Technical Assistance](#). (Accessed 8/10/2017.)

This webpage provides information on the opioid overdose epidemic in Massachusetts, and the grants awarded by the State Department of Public Health (DPH) for Police and Fire Departments to carry and administer naloxone, an opioid overdose antidote, in municipalities that are most affected by this epidemic. It also includes information on accessing naloxone for non-DPH funded First Responder departments, such as information on accessing the Bulk Purchasing Program, training resources, and sample policies and data collection forms.

III. General Opioid Resources

Cross, A. (2017). [Flood of Opioid-Addicted Babies Prompts UK, Other Hospitals to Try a New Strategy of Keeping Them with Their Mothers in the Hospital](#). Kentucky Health News.

The author writes that 15 out of every 1,000 babies born in the State of Kentucky are addicted to opioids, and explains that keeping babies with their mothers can ease infants' withdrawal and shorten hospital stays.

Georgia Bureau of Investigation. (2017). [GBI Issues Synthetic Opioids Alert](#).

This public safety alert lists the number of deaths related to fentanyl, the number of cases the Bureau has investigated to date, symptoms associated with use and overdose, and emphasizes the need for first responders to use extreme caution when handling items that may be contaminated with the drug.

Langford, J., Abraham, A., Johnson, A., et al. (2017). [Prescription Opioids and Heroin Epidemic in Georgia: A White Paper](#).

This state-specific white paper provides an overview of the opioid and heroin epidemic, specifies issues specific to Georgia (e.g., overdose reversal and controlling access to opioids), and includes a section on proposed legislation.

Mammoser, G. (2017). [‘Gray Death’ is the Latest Dangerous Street Drug](#). Healthline News.

The author explains how powerful painkillers (e.g., fentanyl, carfentanil, and U-47700) are being combined to create this “cocktail.”

The Network for Public Health Law. (2017). [Legal Interventions to Reduce Overdose Mortality: Naloxone Access and Overdose Good Samaritan Laws](#).

All 50 states and the District of Columbia have changed their laws regarding access to naloxone; this factsheet explains how medical professionals who prescribe/dispense it and laypeople who administer it may have civil, criminal, and disciplinary immunity.

National Library of Medicine. (2017). [Opiate Addiction and Treatment](#). U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

This webpage includes links to resources regarding opioid addiction, overdose, treating addiction, pregnancy and opioid use (and neonatal abstinence syndrome), recovery, and other helpful topics.

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. (2016). [Naloxone](#). U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

This page explains naloxone, its side effects, and how it can be used to treat opioid overdose.

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. (2016). [SAMHSA Opioid Overdose Prevention Toolkit](#). U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

This toolkit was designed to help communities prevent opioid-related overdoses and deaths and includes sections for community members, first responders, prescribers, and patients and family members. The final section focuses on recovering from an overdose.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2017). [Opioids: The Prescription Drug & Heroin Overdose Epidemic](#).

This webpage includes general information regarding the opioid epidemic; users can click on tabs to find out more about prevention, treatment and recovery, and overdose response. There are also separate tabs for health and law enforcement professionals.

U.S. Food and Drug Administration. (2017). [Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy \(REMS\) for Extended-Release and Long-Acting Opioid Analgesics](#).

This webpage includes links to resources that explain how the FDA plans to update the Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy for these types of analgesics.