

Xylazine

Know the risks



Xylazine is a drug used in veterinary medicine and is not approved by the Food and Drug Administration for use in people. **Xylazine is a powerful animal tranquilizer and is not safe for people to use.**

Xylazine may be **added** to illicitly made opioids, like fentanyl or heroin, or **consumed, inhaled** or **injected**. Xylazine can cause infections and damage to muscle and other soft tissues at injection sites.

Xylazine has been detected in a growing number of overdose deaths in many states. When xylazine is used with illicitly made opioids it may **increase the risk for overdose deaths.**

When used by people, xylazine can slow down brain activity and can cause slowed breathing, slowed heart rate and low blood pressure.



Xylazine is not an opioid, so it does not respond to medicines that block the effects of opioids, like naloxone (also known as Narcan). **Naloxone should still be administered to reverse the effects of opioids, such as heroin, fentanyl and prescription pain relievers,** but it might be less effective in reversing an overdose of illicitly made opioids containing xylazine.

Street names for xylazine:

tranq
tranq dope
sleep cut