

All About XYLAZINE

Xylazine is a non-opiate sedative, analgesic, and muscle relaxant only authorized in the United States for **veterinary use**, according to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. When combined with fentanyl, other synthetic opioids or illicit drugs, xylazine can increase the potential for fatal overdoses. Xylazine is not an opioid, so naloxone **does not** reverse its effects.

It is not approved for human use.

- Routine toxicology tests do not test for xylazine, so additional analytical techniques are required to detect xylazine when it might be involved in drug overdoses.
- Severe withdrawal symptoms may develop from xylazine, which are, by themselves, unlikely to be effectively managed by medications



COST

- A kilogram of xylazine powder can be purchased online from Chinese suppliers with common prices ranging from 6-20 U.S. dollars per kilogram.
- At this low price, its use as an adulterant may increase the profit for illicit drug traffickers, as its psychoactive effects allows them to reduce the amount of fentanyl or heroin used in a mixture.
- While only approved for veterinary use, xylazine is readily available for purchase on Internet sites with no association to the veterinary profession nor requirements to prove legitimate need.

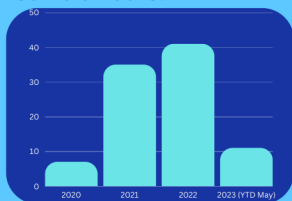
XYLAZINE 101

Form: liquid vials or preloaded syringes, and powder

Damage:

- Xylazine is a central nervous system depressant
- Xylazine can cause: drowsiness, lethargy, apnea and death.
- Xylazine can depress breathing, blood pressure, heart rate and body temperature to critical levels.
- People who inject drugs containing xylazine can develop severe skin wounds and patches of dead and rotting tissue. These tissues become easily infected and may lead to amputation.
- Xylazine-produced wounds can develop in areas of the body away from the injection site and may become life-threatening.

Danger: Xylazine is not an opioid, so naloxone **DOES NOT** reverse the effects of xylazine.



Palm Beach County

Number of overdose deaths involving Xylazine from 2020-2023. (All data from 2022 and 2023 is preliminary and subject to change)



23% of
fentanyl powder



7% of
fentanyl pills

seized by the DEA in 2022 contained xylazine

Florida Department of Law Enforcement

- **2021:** 11th-most frequently identified drug in drug-related evidence, statewide
- **2023:** 6th-most frequently identified drug in drug-related evidence, statewide

