



DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Promoting and protecting health, well-being, self-sufficiency, and safety of all in Marin County.



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Fentanyl Overdose Health Alert

Dear Parents:

This letter is to inform you about a concerning trend in overdoses related to fentanyl in the Bay Area that reached Marin County last week. Marin County Public Health has issued an advisory to healthcare providers after regional law enforcement agencies seized a large number of counterfeit 30-milligram Percocet pills that contain fentanyl – not oxycodone hydrochloride – as their sole active ingredient.

The tablets visually appear to be the pharmaceutical version—circular in shape, light blue in color, with an “M” stamped on one side and a “30” on the other side. Opioid overdoses tied to these tablets have increased since August 2019 across the region, including one case in Marin County last week.

Fentanyl is 80 to 100 times more potent than morphine and 40 to 50 times more potent than heroin.



Counterfeit Percocet containing fentanyl

Fentanyl can have serious, even fatal consequences if used inappropriately.

How You Can Help

1. Talk with your children and alert them to the current risk. Remind them to only take pharmaceutical pills prescribed by their physician, and only take them as directed. Do not share or sell medicines and do not buy medications not prescribed to them. When in doubt about a pharmaceutical, reach out and ask your doctor.

2. If you think a loved one is experiencing challenges with substance misuse and abuse contact the 24/7 Mental Health and Substance Use Access and Assessment Hotline (888-818-1115).

3. Clean out your medicine cabinet regularly. Dispose of unused and expired medications at one of Marin County's safe disposal locations. Visit www.RxSafeMarin.org to find a location near you.

4. If you're concerned someone in your life may be at risk for an opioid overdose, carry the overdose reversal medication naloxone (Narcan). Narcan is available without a physician prescription at most pharmacies in Marin.

Thank you for joining us to protect our community.

Sincerely,

Mary Jane Burke
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