# Harm Reduction Fentanyl Test Strips Analytical Performance Evaluation



### **Summary and Explanation**

Fentanyl is an extremely fast acting synthetic opioid related to the phenylpiperidiens. It has the brand names of Sublimaze, Actiq, Durogestic, Fentora and others. Fentanyl is approximately100 times more potent than morphine, with 100 micrograms of fentanvl approximately equivalent to 10 mg of morphine or 75 mg of meperidine in analgesic activity (1.2). Fentanyl is a potent narcotic analgesic with rapid onset and short duration of action. Historically, it has been used to treat chronic breakthrough pain and is commonly used pre-procedures. Illicit use of pharmaceutical fentanyl first appeared in the mid- 1970s. Because the effects offentanyl last for only a very short time, it is even more addictive than heroin. The regular users may become addicted very quickly. Fentanyl is much more potent than heroin, and tends to produce significantly worse respiratory depression, making it somewhat more dangerous than heroin to users. The overdose of fentanyl has caused death. In humans, the drug appears to be metabolized primarily by oxidative N-dealkylation to Norfentanyl and other inactive metabolites that do not contribute materially to the observed activity of the drug. Within 72 hours of intravenous (IV) administration, approximately 75% of the dose is excreted in urine, mostly as metabolites with <10% representing unchanged drug (3,4).

Fentanylis a controlled substance. As an analgesic, fentanyl can be used for cancer pain treatment. It can also be used to treat severe chronic pain that requires opioid analgesics. Fentanyl can also be abused in a manner similar to other opioid antagonists (legal or illicit). Illegal drug consumption contributes to many accidents, injuries and medical conditions.

Jiangsu Well Biotech Ltd. a immunoassay manufacturer, has developed a fentanyl test strip designed to facilitate the rapid, low-cost, and accurate detection of fentanyl drug residues on suspected surface, in powder or in liquid. It is designed to integrate the collection of sample and lateral flow immunoassay screen testing in one single device. As fentanyl is often mixed with other illicit substances and cutting agents, researchers have conducted the following studies to assess the fentanyl test strip's analytical sensitivity, its potential cross-reactivity in the presence of high concentrations of common cutting agents and illicit compounds.

# **Equipment Test Procedure**

- 1. Open the device kit and remove the test strip from the sealed pouch.
- 2. <u>Powder Form</u>: Dab the powder with the end of the strip or crush drug to a powder then swipe with the end of the strip. Add 3 drops of buffer onto sample pad until the fluid shows up in the window area.

<u>Liquid Form:</u> Add one drop of liquid sample onto the sample pad of the strip. Then add one or two drops of buffer onto sample pad until the fluid shows up in the window area.



3. Lay the device on a flat surface and read results in approximately 5 minutes. Do not read results after 10 minutes.

#### **Fentanyl Precision**

For precision test of fentanyl drugs, dilute fentanyl standards at different concentrations (0, 50%, 150%, 300% and 600% cutoff) into negative buffer solutions. For each concentration, a total of 10 tests were conducted to verify the testing performance. Each study device was tested in accordance with the instructions.

Test Strip	0ng/mL	0.5ng/mL	1.5ng/mL	3ng/mL	6ng/mL
1	Neg	Neg	Pos	Pos	Pos
2	Neg	Neg	Pos	Pos	Pos
3	Neg	Neg	Pos	Pos	Pos
4	Neg	Neg	Pos	Pos	Pos
5	Neg	Neg	Pos	Pos	Pos
6	Neg	Neg	Pos	Pos	Pos
7	Neg	Neg	Pos	Pos	Pos
8	Neg	Neg	Pos	Pos	Pos
9	Neg	Neg	Pos	Pos	Pos
10	Neg	Neg	Pos	Pos	Pos

The Harm Reduction device detects Fentanyl at the cutoff of 1 ng/ml.

# **Analytical Specificity Research (Cross-Reactivity)**

In the study 56 fentanyl analogs were tested using the Fentanyl Test Strip. The specificity was evaluated by adding fentanyl analogs to negative buffer. The results are expressed as the lowest concentration of the compound, in ng/mL, that produced a positive result. Percent cross reactivity of a compound is calculated by dividing the cutoff concentration by the lowest concentration required to obtain a positive result and the multiplying by 100%. Each study device was tested in accordance with the instructions.

Fentanyl Analog Compounds showing various degrees of cross-reactivity.			
Compound Name	Concentration ng/mL	Cross Reactivity %	
o-Fluorofentanyl	2.5ng/mL	40%	
p-Fluorobutyryl fentanyl	10ng/mL	10%	
Tetrahydrofuran fentanyl	500ng/mL	0.2%	
2-Thiofuranyl fentanyl	50ng/mL	2%	
4-Piperidone	2500ng/mL	0.04%	
2',4'-dimethoxy Fentanyl	2.5ng/mL	40%	
3',4'-dimethoxy Fentanyl	1ng/mL	100%	
meta-fluoro Acrylfentanyl	2.5ng/mL	40%	
para-chloro Furanyl fentanyl 3-furancarboxamide	5ng/mL	20%	
Thiophene fentanyl 3-thiophenecarboxamide	25ng/mL	4%	
3'-Fluorofentanyl	2.5ng/mL	40%	
ortho-fluoro Valeryl fentanyl	500ng/mL	0.2%	
4-methyl Fentanyl	5ng/mL	20%	
Cyclopropaneacetyl fentanyl	2.5ng/mL	40%	
para-Chloroacetyl fentanyl	5ng/mL	20%	
para-hydroxy Butyryl fentanyl	2.5ng/mL	40%	
2'-Fluoro ortho-Fluorofentanyl	10ng/mL	10%	
meta-methoxy Furanyl fentanyl	25ng/mL	4%	
3'-fluoro ortho-Fluorofentanyl	5ng/mL	20%	
2',3'-dimethoxy Fentanyl	1ng/mL	100%	
2',6'-dimethoxy Fentanyl	2.5ng/mL	40%	
3',5'-dimethoxy Fentanyl	1ng/mL	100%	
Acetyl norfentanyl	10ng/mL	10%	
Acetyl-α-methyl fentanyl	5ng/mL	20%	
Acryl fentanyl	10ng/mL	10%	
α-methyl fentanyl	1ng/mL	100%	
Benzyl fentanyl	2.5ng/mL	40%	
β-hydroxythio fentanyl	5ng/mL	20%	
Cyclopropyl fentanyl	1ng/mL	100%	
4-Fluoroisobutyryl Fentanyl	50ng/mL	2%	
Methoxyacetyl fentanyl	12.5ng/mL	8%	
4-methoxybutyryl fentanyl (para)	400ng/mL	0.25%	
4'-methyl acetyl fentanyl	25ng/mL	4%	

3'-methyl Fentanyl	10ng/mL	10%
N-methyl norfentanyl	1.5ng/mL	66.7%

Fentanyl Analog Compounds showing no cross-reactivity.	Fentany	yl Analo	g Compound:	s showing no	cross-reactivity.
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Isotonitazene	4-Anilino-1-Boc-piperidine
O-Desmethyl-cis-tramadol	Norcarfentanil
Benzoyl fentanyl (Phenyl fentanyl)	2-fluoro Viminol
Despropionyl para-Fluoro fentanyl	4-Anilino-1-benzylpiperidine
N-Phenethyl-4-piperidone(NPP)	Etonitazene
4-ANPP	AP-238
Despropionyl ortho-Fluorofentanyl	2,3-Benzodioxole fentanyl
AP-237	N-Benzyl-4-piperidone
2-methyl AP-237	Brorphine
Tianeptine	4-Anilinopiperidine
Piperidylthiambutene	

Within the study there were 35 compounds that demonstrated cross-reac, vity to various degrees and are able to be detected by the Fentanyl Test Strip. The other remaining 21 analog compounds did not cross react with the Fentanyl Test Strips at concentra, ons of up to 100 µg/mL.

#### The following opioids compounds were tested at a concentration of 100ug/mL.

6-Acetyl morphine	Naltrexone	
Amphetamine	Norbuprenorphine	
Buprenorphine	Norcodeine	
Buprenorphineglucuronide	Norketamine	
Codeine	Normeperidine	
Dextromethorphan	Normorphine	
Dihydrocodeine	Noroxycodone	
EDDP	Oxycodone	
EMDP	Oxymorphone	
Fluoxetine	Pentazocine (Talwin)	
Heroin	Pipamperone	
Hydrocodone	Risperidone	
Hydromorphone	Tapentadol	
Ketamine	Thioridazine	
Levorphanol	Tilidine	
Meperidine	Tramadol	
Methadone	Tramadol-O-Desmethyl	
Morphine	Tramadol-N-Desmethyl	
Morphine-3-glucuronide	Trazodone	

Malayana	
Naioxone	
Naiokono	

Negative results were obtained for all these compounds. There is no cross-reactivity for these compounds using the AllSource Harm Reduction.

# References

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