

Opioids and Fentanyl Guides and Tools

HHS Guide for Appropriate Tapering or Discontinuation of Long-Term Opioid Use

Read more: https://www.hhs.gov/opioids/sites/default/files/2019-10/Dosage_Reduction_Discontinuation.pdf

NIOSH adds new Fentanyl toolkit

(EMR Info-Gram) The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) added a toolkit to its library of Fentanyl resources for first responders. This new toolkit helps first responders learn how to best protect themselves from exposure to Fentanyl.

Any emergency responders who may encounter drugs or drug paraphernalia during the course of their work should review these materials. This includes law enforcement, EMS providers, fire department personnel, investigators, evidence handlers, special operations and decontamination workers. The toolkit contains:

- Two videos - one shows body camera footage of an officer who was exposed to an illicit drug; the other discusses how to properly don and doff PPE.
- Infographics on spotting illicit drugs; protecting yourself from exposure; selecting PPE; and decontaminating before you go home.
- Two postcards on protecting yourself and protecting your family.

While the new toolkit provides quick reference on Fentanyl dangers and exposure protection, the NIOSH's main page on Fentanyl and illicit drug protection offers more detail on safety. Please see that page for extensive information on PPE, training, decontamination, and handling exposure with working dogs. (Source: NIOSH)

Toolkit link: <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/fentanyl/toolkit.html>

NIOSH main page on Fentanyl: <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/fentanyl/risk.html>

Begin Addressing Opioids in Your Organization

(NSC) The National Safety Council has a toolkit which includes sample policies, fact sheets, presentations, safety talks, posters, white papers, reports, videos and more, so you can implement a workplace program on opioids. These materials will help you understand how opioids impact the workplace, recognize signs of impairment, educate employees on the risks of opioid use, develop drug-related HR policies and support employees who are struggling with opioid misuse.

Learn more: <https://www.nsc.org/pages/prescription-drug-employer-kit>