

ALERT



SYNTHETIC OPIOIDS

DRUGS IN SCOTLAND ARE CHANGING

www.stopthedeaths.com

www.scottishdrugservices.com

**SYNTHETIC OPIOIDS
INCLUDING NITAZENES
HAVE BEEN FOUND IN SOME
OF THE DRUGS SUPPLIED IN
SCOTLAND — INCLUDING
HEROIN, BENZOS AND
POSSIBLY COCAINE AND
OTHER DRUGS. THIS HAS
CAUSED PEOPLE TO HAVE
EXTREMELY BAD
EXPERIENCES INCLUDING
SUDDEN AND NEAR FATAL
OVERDOSES AND HAS
CAUSED DEATHS.**

PROTECT

YOURSELF AND YOUR FRIENDS



Protect yourself

Take the smallest dose you can every time you start a new batch. Give your body time and wait as long as you can between doses.

Remember

Some drugs stay in your body long after the effects wear off.

Take extra care if using more than one drug – heroin, methadone, benzos, cocaine, pregabalin and alcohol can increase the chance of an overdose.

Overdose alert

- Unresponsive (won't wake when shaken)
- Snoring or noisy breathing
- Blue lips
- Shallow breathing
- Pale skin
- Pinpoint pupils

(it won't always be all of these – if someone is unresponsive you should act)

Together

Try to avoid using alone.

These drugs can cause **a very sudden overdose** which can be life-threatening. Use in other people's company and try to take turns so that there is always someone there who is able to help if someone overdoses.

Emergency? 999

If someone is unresponsive, you should **get an ambulance as soon as possible**. Administer naloxone and phone 999. Be open with the call handler – if you know or think drugs are involved then tell them what you know and what you are seeing.

Stay with the person until the emergency services arrives.

Carry naloxone

Make sure you and your friends have naloxone and know how to use it – **pick up an extra naloxone kit**, the person may need more than usual if synthetic opioids like nitazenes are involved. Use the standard dose and repeat as necessary but **you may need to administer more doses than usual**.

There is a risk the person will become unresponsive again and still be in overdose. Stay with them and continue to administer naloxone if they become unresponsive again.

Pick up naloxone from a drug service, pharmacy, homelessness service or from the national naloxone click & deliver service - sfad.org.uk.

You may not know opioids are in the drugs you are using. Synthetic opioids may be mixed in any drugs – **naloxone should be used on anyone who is unresponsive and appears to have had an overdose** no matter what drug is thought to have been used.

Treatment

Being in treatment reduces harm and overdose risks. New treatment standards mean that you can get **rapid access to treatment**. Consider accessing treatment and contact your local drug service.



National naloxone
click & deliver service



STOP THE DEATHS