

Fentanyl 101



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What's my plan for this presentation?



- Short film about the Medically Supervised Injecting Centre (MSIC) in Kings Cross
- All things Fentanyl:
 - ✦ What is it?
 - ✦ What are the effects?
 - ✦ What are the risks?
 - ✦ How did we address it at MSIC?
- Time for questions

What is Fentanyl?



- Powerful painkiller
- Used for treating chronic and persistent pain
- 100 times stronger than Morphine
- Fast acting once inside the body

Effects of Fentanyl



- Drowsy
- Confusion
- Sedation
- Reduced breathing rate
- Pin-point pupils
- Increased risk of overdose

What does Fentanyl look like?



SYDNEY MEDICALLY SUPERVISED

INJECTING

CENTRE |

Fentanyl at MSIC



- First recorded use at MSIC Sept 2012
- Higher rate of overdose compared to other opioids (Heroin, Oxycontin and Morphine)
- Increase in use now that new formulation of Oxycontin (OP) available

Concerns...



- Higher overdose rates due to potency
- Fatalities internationally & nationally
- Confusion around dosage
- Complicated preparation process
- Tolerance rapidly increases with regular use

Fentanyl management at MSIC



- Increased chance of overdose – may happen quickly
- Close observations – 1st 20 mins are important
- Clients report effects are not always pleasant
- Identified a need for staff and client resource

Questions we asked MSIC clients...



- Have you used Fentanyl before?
- Do you know the Oxycontin equivalent of the patch you have?
- How do you prepare it for injection?
- How many 80mg Oxycontin tabs do you usually use?
- Have you ever overdosed after using Fentanyl?

MSIC patch measurement guide

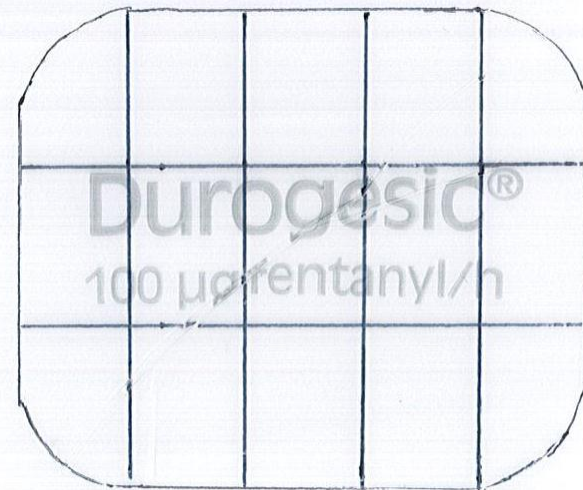


Durogesic 75mcg/hr



75mcg/hr Fentanyl = 10.5 x 80mg Oxycontin

Durogesic 100mcg/hr



100mcg/hr Fentanyl = 14 x 80mg Oxycontin



Key messages



- Fentanyl is 100 times more potent than Morphine
- Risk of overdose is much higher
- 1cm square of any strength patch will have the same amount of Fentanyl on it
- Talk to people about what they know about Fentanyl

Questions?



Contact me at:

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Thank you 😊