



XYLAZINE/ "TRANQ DOPE"

What is Xylazine ("Tranq Dope")?

- Xylazine is a veterinary tranquilizer cut in fentanyl and heroin (sometimes called tranq dope).
- Xylazine is not an opioid.
- Xylazine is a sedative that can last for many hours;
- It can make people unconscious and lead to low blood pressure, a slow heart rate, and slow breathing.

Xylazine (in fentanyl) has spread westward from the Northeast U.S. and been involved in some overdose deaths in Missouri in 2021 and 2022.

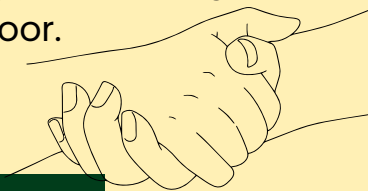
Risks associated with Tranq Dope

- When combined with opioids, Xylazine leads to an increased risk of overdose.
- **Naloxone (Narcan) does not reverse the effects of Xylazine.**
- Injecting Xylazine may increase the risk of skin ulcers and other wounds that spread and worsen quickly. Seek medical care if you have wounds.



Safer use of Tranq Dope

- If smoking, avoid the first hit. Xylazine has a low burn rate and will be destroyed by the heat.
- Use tranq somewhere you won't fall and hurt yourself.
- Ask others how the drug has been making other people feel before buying and using it yourself.
- If you think there is tranq in your dope, tell others so they know to be careful.
- If injecting, carefully clean the injection site with alcohol swabs and use sterile syringes (don't share or re-use) to reduce risk of infection.
- Start with a low dose - you can always do more, you can't go back and do less.
- Tell someone you are using; avoid using alone or behind a locked door.
- Carry naloxone.



What to do in a Tranq Dope Overdose

- Administer naloxone. It won't reverse Xylazine's sedating effects, but it will stop an opioid overdose if that is also going on.
- When responding to a Xylazine-involved overdose with naloxone, the person's breathing may return but they may still be sedated due to the Tranq.
- Stay with the person, monitor their breathing, and keep them in a safe place.
- If possible, seek medical assistance if you suspect a Xylazine-involved overdose.


PREVENTION & TREATMENT OF WOUNDS


Please Note: This infosheet is not official medical advice. If your wound is large, extremely painful, or smells bad, it's important to seek medical attention from a professional.


How to prevent injection-related wounds

- Wash the injection site with soap & water or an alcohol pad
- Use fresh supplies each time you inject or whenever possible
- If you don't have access to fresh supplies, then always clean needles & syringes with bleach and water immediately after use and before using them again.
- Using sterile water, sterile tap water or sealed water from a bottle is best
- Always filter your shot & use a new filter each time
- Try to avoid injecting into the same spot over and over
- If possible, avoid injecting pills



 Dangerous! Do not inject here

 Better NOT to inject here. Inject with caution, slowly

 These are the safest & best veins to use (best to rotate sites)



Do

- Place a towel underneath the area you are going to be cleaning
- Wash hands before cleaning or dressing wound
- Clean/rinse wounds with soap and water (bottle water/saline/tap water)
- Use clean gauze to remove debris
- Wipe from the center of the wound outward
- Keep skin around wound clean of drainage and moisturized (Vitamin A+D ointment)
- Keep wound bed moist
- Change wraps and bandages daily if possible
- Seek medical attention if the wound is getting worse and not improving

Do Not

- Do NOT inject into or near the wound edges
- Do NOT rinse with peroxide, bleach, alcohol, or iodine
- Do NOT use an alcohol prep pad on a fresh injection wound, this will prevent the blood from clotting and delay healing
- Do NOT squeeze or cut a wound open yourself. You can cut into blood vessels. Squeezing, even though it's tempting, can spread the infection into your bloodstream

If you have a wound, monitor for these red flags

If you are experiencing any of these symptoms, please seek medical attention

- Fevers
- Wound is warm or painful to the touch
- New numbness, mottled skin, in or around the infected areas
- Rapid changes in color of wound
- Chunks of tissue falling off
- Can see underlying bones/tendons

