

Drug Advisory



Issued for Northern Health Region

For Immediate Release

March 27, 2025

Northern Health has issued a drug advisory for the Northern Health region. A round white pill sold as “Oxycocet” has tested positive for isotonitazene.

Isotonitazene or "Nitazene" is a synthetic opioid that is equal or more toxic than fentanyl and is **not detected on fentanyl test strips**.

For your safety

- Nitazene will respond to naloxone. Get training to prevent, recognize, and respond to an overdose; carry naloxone.
- Don't use alone. Make a plan and tell someone you trust who can call for help if needed.
- If you plan to use alone, use the Lifeguard or BeSafe app available free on the app store or on Toward the Heart website (<https://towardtheheart.com>).
- Know your tolerance. If you are sick or had a time of abstinence or reduced use, use much less.
- Don't mix drugs or mix drugs with alcohol.
- Test a small amount first and go slow.
- Use in an OPS if possible.
- Call 911 or your local emergency number right away if someone overdoses.

Local overdose prevention sites (OPS)

For information on your local OPS hours please see the Northern Health OPS website: <https://www.northernhealth.ca/health-topics/overdose-prevention#overdose-prevention-services-ops>



Alert Expires

April 10, 2025



First Nations Health Authority
Health through wellness



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