



# HOW TO TEST YOUR OPIOIDS FOR XYLAZINE

- [illegible]



**Xylazine, also known as “tranq,” is a veterinary tranquilizer that is increasingly being added to illicitly sold opioids such as fentanyl and heroin.** Xylazine causes very strong drowsiness that can make it difficult or impossible for people to stay awake. Since xylazine is almost always found alongside opioids, the combined sedation can be dangerous. Repeat exposure to xylazine is also associated with skin problems like ulcers, abscesses, necrosis, and other complications, which may appear far away from injection sites. These issues can also happen if someone smokes or snorts xylazine.

DanceSafe's new xylazine strips can detect the presence of xylazine in most illicit opioid samples, including powders and pressed pills. Manufactured by W.H.P.M., they have been laboratory assessed for their sensitivity and evaluated for potential false positives with common opioid cuts. Proper sample preparation (dilution) is essential with any immunoassay test strip, and our instructions are based on the results of these lab studies.

**NOTE:** At this time, there is no reason to test non-opioid drugs like cocaine, meth, or ketamine for the presence of xylazine. Xylazine is almost exclusively being added to illicitly-sold opioids. In the rare instances where it has appeared in non-opioid drugs, it's almost always present alongside fentanyl. Testing your non-opioid drugs for fentanyl remains important.

DanceSafe is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit. When you buy from us your purchase supports our educational harm reduction services. [dancesafe.org/donate](https://dancesafe.org/donate)



## BEFORE USING THE STRIPS, READ ALL THE INSTRUCTIONS TWICE.

### IMPORTANT

#### DO NOT USE XYLAZINE STRIPS TO TEST NON-OPIOIDS

There is currently no need to test non-opioid drugs for xylazine. In the rare instances where drugs like cocaine and methamphetamine have been found to contain xylazine, the xylazine is always found alongside fentanyl. Therefore, testing with a fentanyl test strip should be sufficient, and it still remains important.

Furthermore, no xylazine strip on the market has been laboratory assessed for use with non-opioids. In two lab studies our strips did not give false positives with methamphetamine or MDMA, but they did give false positives with ketamine and levamisole (a common cut in cocaine). More importantly, they have not yet been tested on other commonly used drugs or common drug cuts (besides common cuts in opioids). So nobody knows whether xylazine test strips will even work on non-opioid drugs.

#### THERE IS NO NEED TO TEST YOUR KETAMINE

Although ketamine and xylazine are both used as veterinary tranquilizers, they are completely different drugs. So far we know of no instances where ketamine has been found to be contaminated with xylazine.

## CARRY NALOXONE NEVER USE ALONE

[dancesafe.org/xylazine-test-strips](https://dancesafe.org/xylazine-test-strips)



### STEP 1

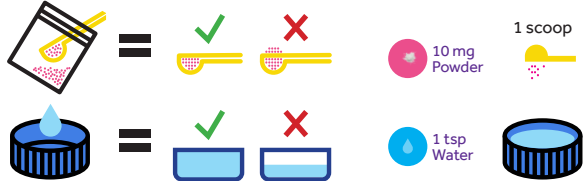
## PREPARING AND DILUTING YOUR OPIOIDS

When using immunoassay test strips for drug checking (as opposed to urine testing), sample preparation is important. Any drug can produce a false positive if over-concentrated, and if you don't concentrate enough (over-diluting by adding too much water) you run a greater risk of false negatives.

### FOR POWDERED OPIOIDS

According to current laboratory studies, the optimum dilution for using our xylazine test strips to test powdered illicit opioids is two milligrams per milliliter (2 mg/mL). This is the equivalent of 10 mg of powder into one teaspoon (5 mL) of water, or one level micro scoop into a normal plastic bottle cap.

- 1 Add one level micro scoop (10 mg) into one teaspoon of water.



- 2 Proceed to STEP 2.

### FOR PRESSED OPIOID TABLETS

This method is for oxycodone pills and other pressed opioid tablets.

**Crush and dissolve:**

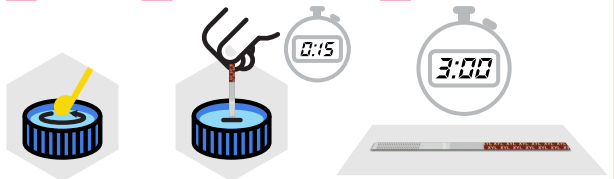
- 1 The entire pill in a quarter cup of water (four tablespoons)  
Half the pill in 1/8th of a cup of water (two tablespoons)  
A quarter of the pill in 1/16th of a cup of water (one tablespoon)
- 2 Proceed to STEP 2.

### STEP 2

## STIR AND TEST

Hold strip by the colored end. Insert dotted end into the water for 15 seconds.

- 1 Stir.
- 2 Dip for 15 seconds.
- 3 Wait three minutes.



### STEP 3

## INTERPRETING THE RESULTS

Any second line, no matter how faint, is a negative result.

#### XYLAZINE



#### NO XYLAZINE

