

PUBLIC HEALTH ALERT

DRUG CHECKING PROGRAMS

June 7, 2024



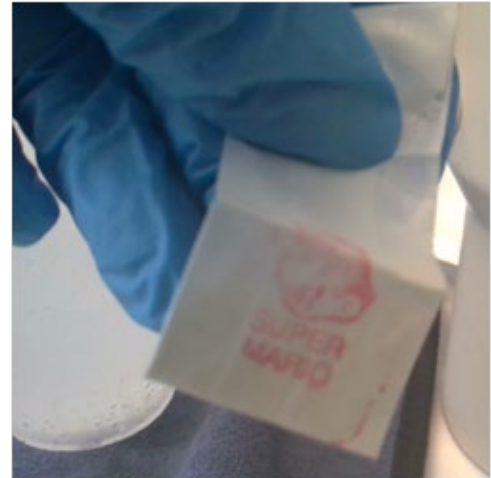
Department
of Health

AIDS
Institute

Situation. The NYS DOH through its Community Drug Checking Program, is alerting to a sample of concern containing a dangerous mix of substances identified in Central New York region on samples the collected on 5/20/2024. Drug checking program participants noticed a change in the supply within the last 2 weeks.

Sample Description. The participant assumed sample to be heroin/nitazenes and in a flaky powder-like form in a bag labeled "Super Mario".

Substances. The active compounds included a combination of **fentanyl**, **xylazine**, diphenhydramine, heroin (trace), and **carfentanil** (trace).



Empty package provided to the New York Drug Checking Program by program participants.

Adverse effects / potential harm. Individuals using the substance reported it "knocking them out". The sample was reportedly linked to severe wounds treated in the emergency department; with wounds reported to have developed within 2 to 3 weeks from use.

The combination of these substances increases the risk of individuals experiencing adverse events such as an overdose, long periods of sedation (blackouts), prolonged respiratory suppression, and possible skin lesions. Those aware of the combination are still at risk of an overdose.

HARM REDUCTION

Persons who use drugs should practice harm reduction strategies such as testing substances before use, not being alone during time of use, and having naloxone available. If naloxone is administered, additional contaminants in the substance can cause prolonged sedation which further emphasizes the importance of administering rescue breathing, placing an individual in the rescue position, and monitoring the individual after administration.

FOR ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

For Drug Checking Program location visit [Drug Checking Locations](#)

Access a complete list of Naloxone distribution programs [Opioid Overdose Prevention Locator](#)

For fentanyl and xylazine test strip request visit [NY MATTERS Test Strip Request](#)

Access Drug User Health Hub locations [Provider Directory Home Page - Provider Directory Application \(aidsinstituteny.org\)](#)

Public Health Alert issued by the Office of Drug User Health Drug Checking Program, AIDS Institute, New York State Department of Health.
For more information, including accessing current drug checking trends visit our website [Drug Checking Data \(ny.gov\)](#) or contact our program at drug.checking@health.ny.gov.