



# DRUG ALERT

## Penticton

**DOWN samples contain fentanyl and high amounts of medetomidine**

Looks Like: Purple chunks and pebbles

Sold as: Down, Dope, Tranq, Fentanyl

Contains: Medetomidine (up to 21% detected)   
Fluorofentanyl  
Benzodiazepines

Risk: Very high risk of overdose  
Dizziness and confusion  
Nausea, amnesia, sleepiness, nodding out for a long time



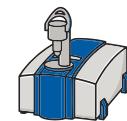
Medetomidine is a very strong non-opioid tranquilizer—much stronger than xylazine (200x).

It can cause breathing and heart rate to slow down, which makes overdoses more complicated and last longer. Medetomidine is potentially dangerous to the heart.

The combination of fluorofentanyl/fentanyl and medetomidine can lead to significant sedation. Overdose symptoms may last beyond administration of naloxone.



**If you have a drug that looks like this, get it checked before using. Drug checking is available 11am-7pm Monday-Tuesday and Thursday-Saturday at ASK Wellness. Call or text 250-328-9619 for more information.**



### Consider these additional tips if you are going to use drugs

- Find more drug checking locations at [www.drugchecking.ca](http://www.drugchecking.ca)
- Be aware of risks if mixing with other drugs, including alcohol
- Use with others around or at an Overdose Prevention Site
- Start with a small amount and wait before taking more
- Space out your doses
- Carry naloxone and know how to use it
- Call 211 or visit [bc211.ca](http://bc211.ca) to find services near you
- Get the LifeGuard App - [lifeguarddh.com](http://lifeguarddh.com)

Local  
Substance Use  
Services  
310-MHSU

**Alert in effect until February 10<sup>th</sup> 2026**

**Harm Reduction | Population Health**