

Solutions Catalog

PROTECTION AGAINST FENTANYL

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FACTS

ABOUT FENTANYL

Fentanyl is a powerful synthetic drug that is similar to morphine & heroin but 50 -100 times more potent.

Fentanyl & its equivalents are members of the class of drugs known as rapid-acting synthetic opioids that alleviate pain.

THE PROBLEM

Increasing rates of usage and addiction to Fentanyl are placing first responders, law enforcement and other related professions at a greater risk of accidental exposure.



Just 2-3 milligrams of Fentanyl equivalent in size to 5-7 grains of table salt can cause an overdose.

2X

increase in reported law enforcement Fentanyl encounters in 2015, the most current year on file¹

>50%

of reported U.S. opioid overdose deaths in 10 states **tested positive for Fentanyl** in 2016²

>20,000

people died from Fentanyl and Fentanyl analogs, a 203% increase from 2015.³ And recently published statistics for 2017 are double compared to the second half of 2016.⁴

EXPOSURE to the dangers of Fentanyl can occur in several ways



INGESTION
Accidental ingestion when passed to the mouth with Fentanyl contaminated hands.



INHALATION
Can occur when Fentanyl is in a fine powder form and is stirred into the air and inhaled.



ABSORPTION
Can occur when accidentally touching a surface with trace amounts of Fentanyl.

WHO IS AT RISK?

Pre-Hospital Patient Care	Law Enforcement	Investigation and Evidence Handling	Special Operations and Decontamination
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First responders • Fire department • Private companies • Patient transportation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State & federal police officers • State & federal prison enforcement officers • Border and airport security officers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FBI & CIA • Forensic lab technicians • Coroner / mortuary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hazardous material incident response teams

¹ [cdc.gov/drugoverdose/data/fentanyl-le-reports.html](https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/data/fentanyl-le-reports.html)

² [cdc.gov/media/releases/2017/s1027-fentanyl-deaths.html](https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2017/s1027-fentanyl-deaths.html)

³ https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/health_policy/monthly-drug-overdose-death-estimates.pdf

⁴ <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/67/wr/mm6727a4.htm>

GUIDANCE TO AVOID EXPOSURE

As with any hazard, a thorough risk assessment should be employed to establish the potential level of exposure and risk associated with Fentanyl exposure in order to determine the appropriate PPE necessary. Based on Fentanyl risk exposure scenarios, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, (CDC) National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), and IAB publish PPE matrices that offer guidance on selecting respiratory, face and eye, hand and dermal protection. Based on these guidelines Ansell recommends the following considerations for hand and body protection against Fentanyl.

Learn More About NIOSH and CDC recommendations at [cdc.gov/niosh/topics/fentanyl/risk.html](https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/fentanyl/risk.html)

SINGLE USE DISPOSABLE GLOVES



Select the correct size and fit to maximize dexterity



Utilize an extended cuff for additional level of protection of the wrist



NO RUBBER LATEX

Choose a non-latex (synthetic) medical grade exam glove at least 5mil (0.127mm) palm thickness



Replace after advised time limit & if torn or punctured, change immediately



Look for gloves that have been **tested** for exposure to fentanyl and gastric acid in accordance with ASTM D6978-05



Ensure gloves meet or exceed the strict requirements of the National Fire Protection Agency, an external body that regulates emergency protection

Additional Points to Consider

- Double glove for added protection
- Choose gloves manufactured to low Acceptable Quality Levels (AQL), as this indicates higher levels of barrier quality and consistency

CHEMICAL PROTECTIVE CLOTHING

Ansell offers a wide selection of coveralls and other accessories made from fabrics that have been tested to resist Fentanyl permeation.

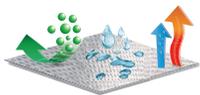
When selecting clothing for potential dermal exposure to highly toxic compounds like Fentanyl, it is important to consider both the chemical barrier properties of a fabric as well as the design and construction of the garment.



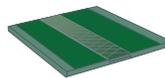
Select the correct size of chemical protective suit



Choose products with industry standards certification



Identify the appropriate chemical barrier (fabric) which meets ASTM D6978-05 applicable for the exposure level

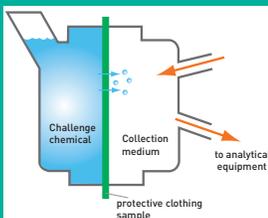


Consider unique innovative design features in chemical protective suits such as double zip, taped/welded seams appropriate to the Fentanyl risk.

Seams and storm flaps that cover and seal over the zipper are important for limiting dry particle contamination into the suit.

FENTANYL TESTING

Personal protective equipment like single use disposable gloves and clothing can be tested using test methods such as ASTM D6978-05 to ensure that it provides a safer, effective barrier against Fentanyl.



Permeation Test Cell

- A section of glove or clothing is placed between the chemical – in this case liquid Fentanyl /gastric acid – on one side and a chemical detector on the other side in accordance with ASTM D6978-05 Standard Practice for Assessment of Medical Gloves to Permeation by Chemotherapy Drugs.
- The point at which the liquid chemical permeation rate reaches a predetermined threshold on the opposite side of the glove or fabric sample is called the “breakthrough time” .
- These tests are typically run for 240 minutes and if there is no breakthrough in that time, the gloves breakthrough time is listed as greater than 240 minutes.

RECOGNISING THE EXPOSURE LEVELS

MINIMAL

Response to a situation where it is suspected that **Fentanyl may be present but no Fentanyl products are visible**

Example: An EMS response to a suspected Fentanyl overdose or law enforcement operation where intelligence indicates Fentanyl products are suspected but are not visible on scene¹

MODERATE

Response to a situation where **small amounts of Fentanyl products are visible**

Example: An EMS response to a suspected Fentanyl overdose or law enforcement operation where Fentanyl products are suspected and small amounts are visible on scene¹

HIGH

Response to a situation where **liquid fentanyl or large amounts of Fentanyl products are visible**

Example: A Fentanyl storage or distribution facility, Fentanyl milling operation, or Fentanyl production laboratory¹

¹Learn More About NIOSH and CDC recommendations at [cdc.gov/niosh/topics/fentanyl/risk.html](https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/fentanyl/risk.html)

PRODUCTS AVAILABLE

The below are all test against Fentanyl

Scenario									
Pre-hospital Patient Care		Law Enforcement Routine Duty		Investigation / Evidence Collection			Special Ops / Decontamination		
Minimal	Moderate	Minimal	Moderate	Minimal	Moderate	High	Minimal	Moderate	High

MICROFLEX®

Microflex® LifeStar EC™ Double dipped for strength, dual colored for easy breach detection		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Microflex® 93-843 / Supreno™ Durable nitrile exam glove with advanced barrier protection		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Microflex® 93-260 Tough chemical protection in a thin, chemical resistant disposable glove		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

MICROCHEM® by AlphaTec™

MICROCHEM® by AlphaTec® 2000 / 2000 TS PLUS Breathable protection and comfort with exceptional liquid and particulate protection		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
MICROCHEM® by AlphaTec® 2300 / 2300 PLUS Light weight entry-level barrier to harmful chemicals		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
MICROCHEM® by AlphaTec® 3000 One of the lightest and most comfortable chemical protective materials on the market today		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
MICROCHEM® by AlphaTec® 4000 An exceptional barrier against organic and inorganic chemicals and biological agents		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

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