

23 SEPTEMBER 2025



NOTICE
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METONITAZENE AND PROTONITAZENE FOUND IN 'OPIOID' CAPSULE

A CAPSULE FILLED WITH WHITE POWDER

that was expected to contain an unknown opioid was found to contain the highly potent synthetic opioids metonitazene and protonitazene. While both metonitazene and protonitazene have each been detected separately at CanTEST, **this is the first detection of a combination of nitazenes in a single sample by a drug checking service in Australia.**

All nitazenes carry a risk of fatal overdose - even in very small amounts. Nitazenes are known to cause opioid-like overdose (lowered/loss of consciousness, breathing slowly or not at all, tiny/pinpoint pupils, discoloured lips/nails, cold or clammy skin, choking/coughing/gurgling or snoring sounds are all potential signs).

EFFECTS

It's difficult for health services to provide safer use advice due to the limited evidence that either of these substances can or should be used safely. Being informed, carrying naloxone, and staying with others can reduce potential harm.

Naloxone can reverse an opioid overdose, and nitazenes are responsive to naloxone but several doses may be required. Always remember that nitazenes can cause multiple overdoses over time.

REDUCE THE HARM

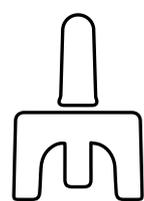
(Naloxone can reverse a nitazene overdose - though multiple doses may be required)



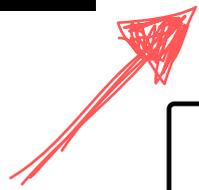
START LOW, GO SLOW



TEST IT BEFORE YOU TAKE IT



CARRY NALOXONE



POSSIBLE OVERDOSE? CALL 000