



24 JULY 2025

# TRAMADOL FOUND IN EXPECTED 'ALPRAZOLAM' PILL

CANTEST COMMUNITY NOTICE CANTEST COMMUNITY NOTICE

**A WHITE OVAL PRESSED PILL** with score lines and '2' on one side expected to contain alprazolam was found to contain paracetamol and tramadol instead. No alprazolam was detected.

Benzos are drugs typically used to sedate and treat anxiety. Tramadol (detected) is an opioid with SNRI-like properties, commonly used for short-term relief of severe pain. This is the first time that tramadol has been detected in an expected benzo sample at CanTEST.

Effects of tramadol with benzos can have serious side effects, like profound sedation and respiratory distress, and your risk of harm is increased if you use other depressants with tramadol.

Avoid combining tramadol with:  
SSRIs (e.g. sertraline), SNRIs (e.g. venlafaxine), MAOIs (e.g. phenelzine, moclobemide), Tricyclic antidepressants (TCAs), ketamine and analogues, mirtazapin, antihistamines (sedating), gabapentinoids (e.g. pregabalin, gabapentin), bupropion, antipsychotics (or other drugs that lower the seizure threshold), MDMA or other serotonergic drugs and stimulants like cocaine and amphetamine (these can cause serotonin toxicity - when a person's entire body is overloaded with serotonin).

Signs of serotonin toxicity include confusion, agitation, overheating, seizures, fits, fast/irregular heart rhythm, muscle tension, uncontrolled movements (e.g. shaking foot/leg, wobbling eyes), nausea/vomiting, loss of consciousness.

## REDUCE THE HARM

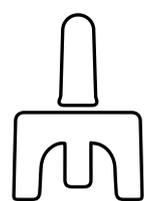
(Naloxone can reverse an unexpected opioid overdose)



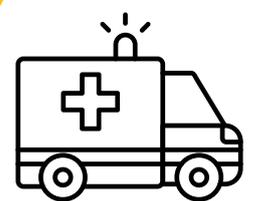
START LOW, GO SLOW



TEST IT BEFORE YOU TAKE IT



CARRY NALOXONE



POSSIBLE OVERDOSE? CALL 000