

# XYLAZINE – ‘TRANQ’



## WHAT IS XYLAZINE?

- It is a **tranquilizer** used for **animal vet care**
- It is **not** meant for human use
- It is **not** an opioid
- It has been detected as a **filler in unregulated** fentanyl and other drugs

## WHAT CAN HAPPEN?

- Sleepiness/feeling very tired/heavy sedation
- Blackouts that last longer than opioids
- Slow circulation, low blood pressure and low heart rate
- Slowed breathing
- Withdrawals
- New skin wounds that take longer to heal or don't heal
- Higher risk of death when Xylazine is mixed with other drugs

## HOW TO BE SAFER

If you think Xylazine is in your drugs:

- Ask around to see how the drugs are making people feel before you buy/use
- Try to use when others are around you
- Lay in the recovery position
- Use in a place where you can be safe
- Carry naloxone
- If available, test your drugs with a test strip or a drug checking service

## XYLAZINE AND WOUNDS

Wounds can appear anywhere on the body, not always where you injected and can show up no matter how you use your drugs (snort, inject, smoke, etc.)

## WOUND CARE

- If open and draining, change the bandage or gauze everyday
- Wash the wound with mild soap and bottle/tap water or use antiseptic wipes (available where you get your harm reduction supplies)
- Do not use alcohol wipes – they can cause more pain and dry out skin
- Protect skin around the wound by applying a skin barrier cream (e.g., petroleum jelly)
- Do not inject in and around the area

## GET MEDICAL CARE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IF:

- Wounds are not healing or look like they are getting worse
- You have swelling, are feeling warmth/heat and/or redness in and around any wounds
- Wound drainage is yellow/green/pus in colour and/or has an odour
- You develop a fever



This resource was adapted with permission from Sanguen Health Centre

## PUBLIC HEALTH

1-877-464-9675 x 73037

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[york.ca/opioids](http://york.ca/opioids)

  
York Region