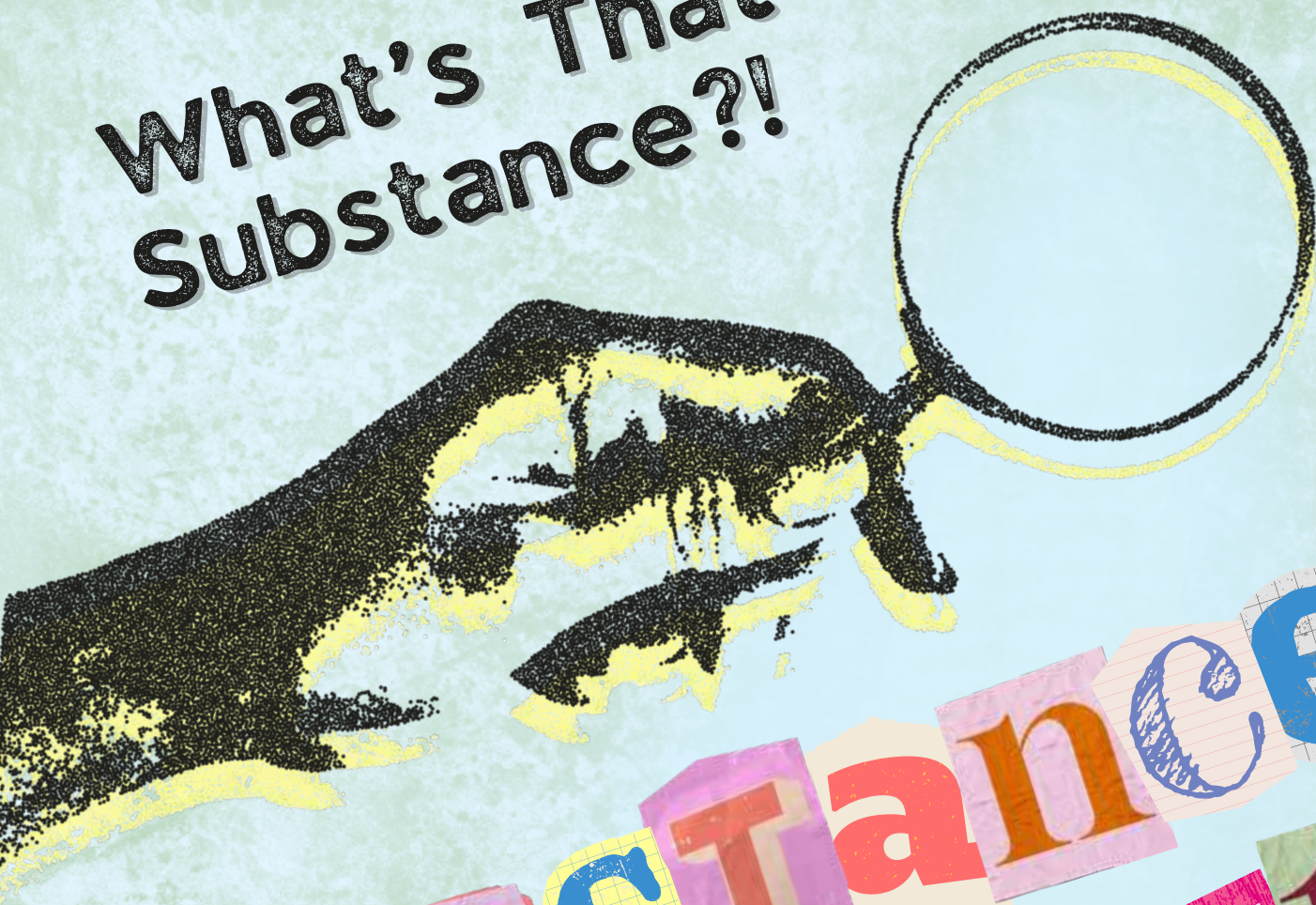


What's That
Substance?!



SUBSTANCE SPOTLIGHT

ZINE
2026

KEY



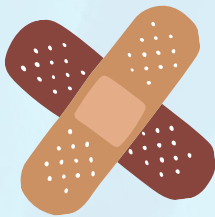
**NARCAN
COULD HELP**



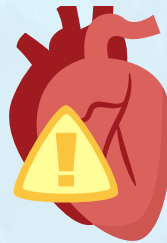
**SUBSTANCE
TYPE**



**SUBSTANCE
IS
STRONG**



**CAUSES
WOUNDS**



**EFFECTS
HEART**



**EFFECTS
OVER
LONG TIME**



**EFFECTS
UNKNOWN**

The drug supply is changing all the time. This zine covers some emerging adulterants drug checking programs are finding in the supply in New England as of the spring of 2026. In this zine, we will share some brief information about the adulterant, what people report experiencing, and how to reduce harm.

Medetomidine

Medetomidine is a veterinary sedative, and is stronger than xylazine.



People report:

- deep sleepiness
- dry mouth
- slow breathing
- muscle twitches
- hallucinations

Harm Reduction: *Medetomidine is not an opioid, but it has only been found with opioids, so always give Narcan during an overdose. Keep watching for breathing and stay with the person if you can.*

Nitazenes

Nitazenes are a type of opioid that have been found in trace amounts. Some are as strong as fentanyl while others are much stronger.



People report:

- “hard to smoke”
- rashes
- ear ringing
- passing out
- feeling sick after use

Harm Reduction: *Narcan can reverse nitazene-related overdoses. Because of their strength, you might need more doses of Narcan. Wait 2-3 minutes between each dose of Narcan and give rescue breaths if possible.*

BTMPS

BTMPS or Tinuvin 770 is a chemical used in making plastics that has been found in the drug supply.



People report:

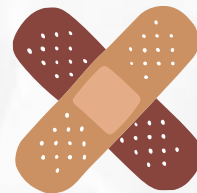
- blurred vision
- headaches
- nausea
- burning when injected
- gelling/gumming up when in high levels

(BTMPS Cont.)

Harm Reduction: *There is currently little information about the effects of BTMPS in humans. Drug checking can identify BTMPS in a sample. BTMPS is not an opioid, but has been found with fentanyl. Drug checking, using with others and carrying Narcan are practices that could reduce potential harm until we know more about BTMPS.*

Levamisole

Levamisole is veterinary drug that treats parasitic infections.



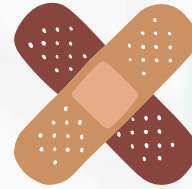
People report:

- nausea, diarrhea
- mouth sores
- rash, sores
- passing out
- difficulty breathing
- seizure
- fever

Harm Reduction: *Levamisole is not easily recognizable without drug checking. If you have an infection, are living with HIV or have cancer, it can be very harmful. If you have sores, wounds, or signs of illness or infection consider seeking medical help.*

Xylazine

Xylazine is a long-acting animal tranquilizer. It is most often found in fentanyl.



People report:

- skin ulcers
- drowsiness
- unresponsiveness

Harm Reduction: *If you think someone overdosed, give Narcan, and check their breathing (breathing may resume before the person wakes up). Xylazine can cause infection and ulcers, so wound care and keeping materials clean is really important!*

Phenacetin

Phenacetin is a pain reliever and fever reducer that was discontinued by the FDA in 1983.



It does not have immediate effects but can damage kidneys and increase risk of cancer.

Harm Reduction: *Drug checking can help identify Phenacetin. Consider cancer screenings.*



What substances are being found together?

SUBSTANCE	OPIOIDS	COCAINE	METH
Medetomidine			
Nitazenes			
BTMPS			
Phenacetin			
Xylazine			
Levamisole			

*Please be aware: this zine uses data that was available as of May 2026.
The drug supply changes all the time, and can change quickly.*

**Test Your Stuff.
Use Together.
Go Slow.
Carry Narcan.**

**Drug Checking Is Available.
Learn More:**



**INFO.STREETCHECK.ORG/CUTS
CUTSRI@GMAIL.COM**

**WWW.OPIOIDCOBRE.ORG
OPIOIDCOBRE@GMAIL.COM**



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