

## BTNX Justification

CPH bases all education card and instructions on the type of test strips that BTNX manufacturers. They are a single source for the Rapid Response Fentanyl Test Strips. These strips are used for harm reduction in partnership with the Alcohol and Drug Services division.

These test kits are directly from the manufacturer and have been proven to hold the highest sensitive per a 2018 study done by John Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. The Fentanyl Test strips or FTS is a lateral flow chromatographic immunoassay for the qualitative detection of fentanyl in urine at the cutoff concentration of 20 ng/mL. A positive result on this test strip gives one line, a negative result gives two lines, and an invalid test gives either no line or no control line

“The findings of the recent Fentanyl Overdose Reduction Checking Analysis Study (FORECAST) that compared the ability of three drug checking technologies (i.e. **BTNX fentanyl testing strips**, TruNarc machine, and Bruker Alpha machine) in detecting fentanyl in street drug samples with a gold standard test (i.e. gas chromatograph/mass spectrometer) **concluded that the fentanyl testing strips used in this study had the lowest detection limit and the highest specificity and sensitivity for fentanyl among the assessed technologies [26]**. Furthermore, fentanyl test strips are considerably cheaper and require minimal training for proper use compared to other testing approaches and therefore seem to be a practical and feasible intervention with a significant potential for reducing harm in the context of the current opioid crisis [26]”

In a 2018 study from Brown University's School of Public Health by Dr. Brandon Marshall, researchers provided test strips to young adults who reporting injecting opioids or using heroin, cocaine or prescription pills. Half of those participants detected fentanyl in their drug supply and a majority of those participants felt most comfortable obtaining rapid-acting fentanyl test strips at health clinics. “Our study shows that the fentanyl test strips are effective at preventing overdoses,” Krieger said. “A majority of our participants who received a positive result changed their drug-using behavior. The harm reduction concept behind these test strips, adding a cheap but effective layer of protection against known overdose risks, is similar to other health precautions such as using condoms to prevent sexually transmitted diseases.”

### Sources:

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6701177/>

[https://americanhealth.jhu.edu/sites/default/files/website-media/resources/Fentanyl\\_Executive\\_Summary\\_032018.pdf](https://americanhealth.jhu.edu/sites/default/files/website-media/resources/Fentanyl_Executive_Summary_032018.pdf)

<https://harmreductionjournal.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12954-021-00478-4>

<https://www.brown.edu/news/2018-10-18/fentanyl>

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0955395918302469>

**HEALTH COMMISSIONER** | Mysheika W. Roberts, MD, MPH  
**BOARD OF HEALTH PRESIDENT, EX-OFFICIO:**  
Mayor Andrew J. Ginther



**BOARD OF HEALTH** | Andrew E. Boy | Chad M. Braun, MD  
Shayne N. Downton | Karen J. Morrison, JD, MS  
Mary Ellen Wewers, PhD, MPH, RN