

# COMMONLY USED TERMS



What's that mean? Why, everyone knows... that's ummm....

It seems like there are always new drug trends emerging, and this can include new terms and new concerns.

Here are some common terms you may need to know

## Opioids

Natural, synthetic, or semi-synthetic chemicals that interact with opioid receptors on nerve cells in the body and brain, and reduce the intensity of pain signals and feelings of pain. This includes heroin, synthetic opioids such as fentanyl, and pain medications available legally by prescription, such as oxycodone, hydrocodone, codeine and morphine.

## Fentanyl

A synthetic opioid, approved for treating severe pain. It is 50 to 100x more potent than morphine. However, illegally made fentanyl is sold through illicit drug markets. It is often mixed with drugs like heroin or cocaine.

## Illicit Drugs

The nonmedical use of a variety of drugs that are prohibited by law. These drugs can include: amphetamine-type stimulants, marijuana/cannabis, cocaine, heroin, other opioids, and synthetic drugs, such as illicitly manufactured fentanyl (IMF) and ecstasy (MDMA).

## Opioid Use Disorder (OUD)

A problematic pattern of opioid use that causes significant impairment or distress. A diagnosis is based on specific criteria such as unsuccessful efforts to cut down or control use, or use resulting in social problems and a failure to fulfill obligations at work, school, or home, among other criteria. Opioid use disorder is preferred over other terms with similar definitions, “**opioid abuse or dependence**” or “**opioid addiction**.”

## Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT)

Treatment for opioid use disorder combining medications (methadone, buprenorphine, or naltrexone) with counseling and behavioral therapies.

## Naloxone

A drug that can reverse the effects of opioid overdose and can be life-saving if administered in time. Brand names include Narcan®.

SOURCE: CDC



FOR MORE INFORMATION

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