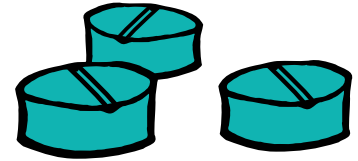


HOW TO TALK TO YOUR KIDS ABOUT FENTANYL

learn more at
ekcenter.org



1 Have a conversation with your child.

Start with a general conversation about pain, stress, mental health, and medications. Mental health is a key factor in substance use: 86% of youth 13-17 are overwhelmed and 79% say anxiety and stress is a common reason to misuse medication.

Explain that pain and stress are normal things that happen in life, and provide suggestions on how to manage them.



2 Explain what fentanyl is and why it's so dangerous.

A POTENTIALLY LETHAL DOSE



- Fentanyl is a powerful opioid being added to fake prescription pills and other drugs you can buy “off the street”. Fentanyl is added to increase profits because it's cheaper and stronger.
- One pill can kill. A potentially lethal dose of fentanyl is the size of 2 grains of salt.
- If it's not from your child's doctor or pharmacy, do not take it.
- Anyone who misuses prescription pills or uses drugs, even the first time, is at risk of a fentanyl overdose.
- A “friend” or drug dealer may not know if the product they are selling contains fentanyl, and there's no way they can guarantee that it doesn't contain fentanyl.

3 Focus the conversation on safety.

Instead of focusing the conversation around punishment for drug use, share that you care about them and want them to be safe.

As parents, you are an important influence in your kids' lives. One of the best ways to protect kids from substance use is by having regular and open conversations to educate them about the risks. Listen to them without judgment. Also monitor their social media use. Drugs are often provided by someone that they know or a stranger that they meet on social media.

Mistakes are part of growing up.
Don't be afraid to come to me.

Your future is important. I want
you to be around for it.

I will love you no matter what -
you can always talk to me.

**CALL
911**

Let your kids know if they see someone who is beginning to overdose, they should not be afraid to call 911.

The South Carolina Good Samaritan Law protects you - so that neither you, nor the overdose victim, will be charged for possession of substances if you call 911 in the case of overdose.



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This publication was prepared by the Kennedy Center under award number 5H79SP082364-03 from SAMHSA, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The statements, findings, conclusions, and recommendations are those of the author(s) and does not necessarily reflect the views of SAMHSA or the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.