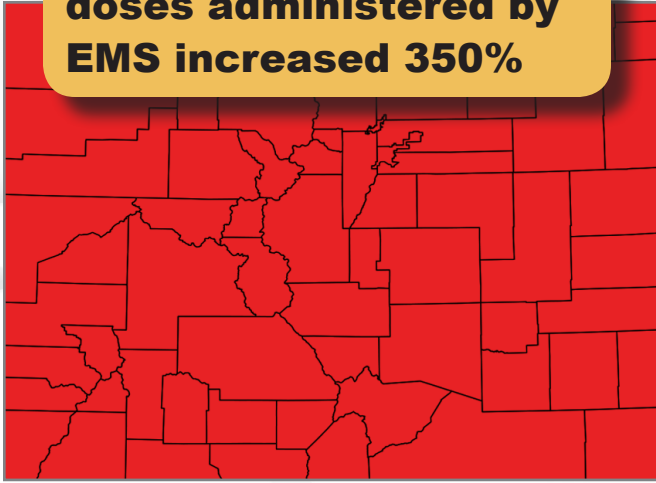


The Deadly Counterfeit Drug Trade Thrives in Colorado

In 5 years, the naloxone doses administered by EMS increased 350%



The country has seen an upsurge in counterfeit prescription pills masquerading as painkillers and Xanax. These pills are disguised as real medications but made with deadly fentanyl or its even deadlier variants, and **even a fraction of a single pill can mean death in less than 30 minutes of ingesting it.**

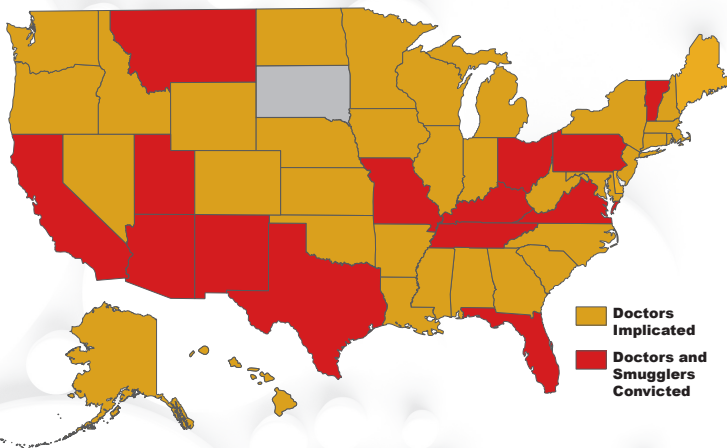
Fentanyl is a serious threat in Colorado. Since 2013, both Utah-based counterfeiter Aaron Shamo and players in another massive fentanyl smuggling ring have sold their deadly products to Coloradans. **The number of times EMS have administered naloxone to victims of overdose has more than tripled since 2011.**

54 Colorado Doctors Linked to Fake Drug Rings

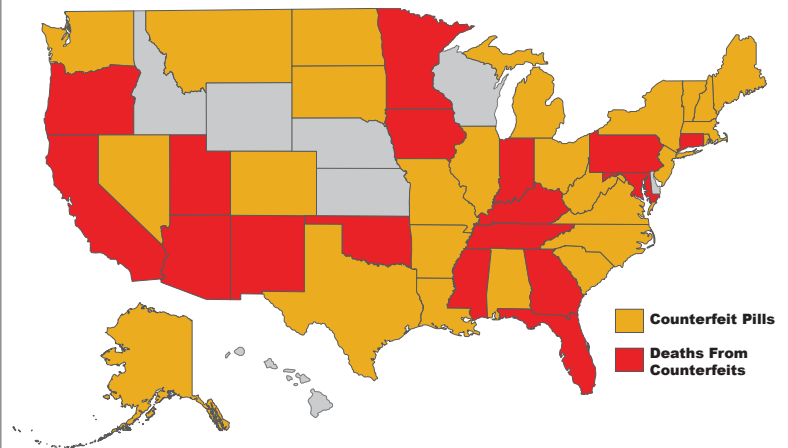
Counterfeit cancer drugs have touched Colorado as well. 54 different medical practices in Colorado have been implicated in various black market supply chains associated with counterfeit cancer treatments and other therapies. Families who have lost relatives to cancer will never know if their loved ones were given real medication or fake, and if they died from a lack of treatment. ■

Opening the U.S.'s closed drug supply chain puts Coloradan lives at risk of serious injury or death.

Fake Cancer Drug Crisis



Fentanyl-Laced Counterfeits & Related Deaths



Counterfeit and Black Market Drug Investigations in Colorado (2012–2017)

Based on reported investigations.

Note that each investigation could have affected hundreds of Colorado residents.

Fentanyl and Counterfeit Pills Made with Fentanyl

November 2017: State reporting indicated a crisis in opioid use, including prescription opioids, heroin and fentanyl. In 2011, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) administered 997 doses of naloxone, an opioid overdose reversal drug, in Colorado. By 2016, that rate had risen to 3,465 doses.¹

October 2017: The U.S. Department of Justice announced indictments against two Chinese nationals for distributing fentanyl across the U.S., including to addresses in Colorado.²

August 2017: Charges were announced against Lakewood, CO resident Carlos Ramirez. DEA agents discovered him in possession of 40 pounds of fentanyl at a hotel in The Bronx, NY. Police said this much fentanyl could cause 7 million overdoses.³

November 2016: A Utah-based drug counterfeiting operation shipped two buyers in Colorado a total of 30 fentanyl-laced counterfeit oxycodone pills.⁴

Black Market and Counterfeit Cancer Drugs

April 2015: The FDA warned three Colorado medical practices and more than 270 nationwide to stop buying drugs from Gallant Pharmaceuticals, which sold more than 39 non-FDA approved medications.⁵

May 2013: The FDA warned 780 medical practices, 12 in Colorado, to stop doing business with unlicensed drug seller Medical Device King, which had sold 31 non-FDA approved medications, including counterfeit Avastin.⁶

2012–2013: The FDA warned three Colorado doctors offices and more than 500 across the country to stop buying from CanadaDrugs.com subsidiaries that had sold American doctors counterfeit Avastin.⁷

Misbranded and Counterfeit Botox

March 2016: The FDA warned 34 Colorado doctors and more than 1,200 nationwide to stop buying from Canadian distributor TC Medical, which sold 22 different kinds of non-FDA approved medications, including counterfeit Botox.⁸

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1. John Frank, "Colorado's opioid epidemic explained in 10 graphics," *The Denver Post*, last updated November 7, 2017, <http://dpo.st/2npcqDn>.
 2. "Justice Department Announces First Ever Indictments Against Designated Chinese Manufacturers of Deadly Fentanyl and Other Opiate Substances," U.S. Department of Justice Press Release, October 17, 2017, <http://bit.ly/2DLidOx>; and Indictment, U.S. District Court for the District of North Dakota, Eastern Division, Case 3:17-cr-00206-RRE, <http://bit.ly/2E4amf9>.
 3. "Lakewood man indicted for having 40 pounds of fentanyl in New York," *FOX31 Denver KDVR-TV*, August 1, 2017, <http://bit.ly/2BAZXlc>.
 4. Superseding Indictment, U.S. District Court, District of Utah, Central Division, Case No. 2:16-cr-00631-DAK, <http://bit.ly/2mGXekE>.
 5. "FDA Issues Letters to Doctors Who May Have Purchased Counterfeit or Unapproved Prescription Drugs," U.S. Food and Drug Administration, last updated August 17, 2017, <http://bit.ly/2DqFh4c>.
 6. Historical Information: FDA Issues Letters to Doctors Who May Have Purchased Counterfeit or Unapproved Prescription Drugs, 2012-2014," U.S. Food and Drug Administration, last updated June 12, 2017, <http://bit.ly/2rkvR5s>.
 7. "Historical Information: FDA Issues Letters to Doctors..." <http://bit.ly/2rkvR5s>.
 8. "FDA Issues Letters to Doctors Who May Have Purchased..." <http://bit.ly/2DqFh4c>.