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 to Oklahomans. In October 2017, Oklahoma City resident Jim Hadley woke up to find his wife, sister-in-law, and stepson unresponsive. All three had taken prescription pain pills the evening before, but the pills were counterfeit. They contained fentanyl and none of them were able to be revived.

Oklahoma City, February 2019: A traffic stop lead to the seizure of 19 pounds of fentanyl. That much fentanyl could kill 2.8 million people.

Tulsa, September 2019: Doctor indicted for injecting patients with non FDA-approved Botox sourced from Gibraltar, Great Britain, Ireland, Malta, and Pakistan.

2012-2013: Twelve doctors in the state received warning letters about purchasing cancer medications from unlicensed drug sellers.

Opens the U.S.’s closed drug supply chain puts Oklahoma lives at risk of serious injury or death.

36 OKLAHOMA DOCTORS LINKED TO FAKE DRUG RINGS

Counterfeit cancer drugs have touched Oklahoma as well. 36 different medical practices in Oklahoma 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.
Fentanyl and Counterfeit Pills Made with Fentanyl

February 2019: A traffic stop in Oklahoma City yielded 19 pounds of fentanyl, 43 pounds of methamphetamine, and five pounds of heroin.¹

September 2018: The Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Control (OBN) reported that one individual died and another was hospitalized after ingesting counterfeit oxycodone pills laced with fentanyl.²

November 2017: OBN announced the discovery six new fentanyl analogues in autopsy reports between May and November. They also arrested a man in southern Oklahoma who was making counterfeit pills with fentanyl.³

May 2017: The indictment of Aaron Shamo from Utah shows his fentanyl drug ring shipped counterfeit pills into Oklahoma.⁴

June 2016: Law enforcement and first responders were warned to lookout for pills made to look like Lortab and oxycodone, but that actually contain fentanyl.⁵

May 2016: Authorities warned the public about the dangers of fentanyl. The drug had already claimed dozens of lives in the state.⁶

March 2016: Oklahoma City resident Jim Hadley woke up one morning to find his wife, sister-in-law, and stepson dead. Toxicology reports revealed that all three had taken prescription painkillers that contained fentanyl.⁷

Black Market and Counterfeit Cancer Drugs

May 2013: The FDA warned 780 medical practices, six in Oklahoma, to stop doing business with unlicensed drug seller Medical Device King, which had sold 31 non-FDA approved medications, including counterfeit Avastin.⁸

February–June 2012: The FDA warned 139 medical practices, six in Oklahoma, to stop doing business with Richards Pharma, Clinical Care, Quality Specialty Products (QSP), Montana Healthcare Solutions, or Bridgewater Medical. All of these companies sold counterfeit cancer medications.⁹

Misbranded and Counterfeit Botox

September 2019: A Tulsa doctor was indicted for allegedly injecting patients with non-FDA-approved Botox that he purchased from unlicensed sources in Gibraltar, Great Britain, Ireland, Malta, and Pakistan dating back as far as August 2009.¹⁰

March 2016: The FDA warned 19 doctors and clinics in Oklahoma 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.¹¹

July 2013: The FDA warned nine doctors and medical practices in New York to stop purchasing fraudulent versions of Botox sold by Online Botox Pharmacy, Onlinebotox.com, and Onlinebotox.¹²

Other Drugs

March 2013: Michael Schlueter and Thomas Variola, owners of Oklahoma Male Clinic, were sentenced in federal court and had their practice closed. The clinic used misbranded drugs to treat their customers with weight problems and sexual dysfunction.¹³