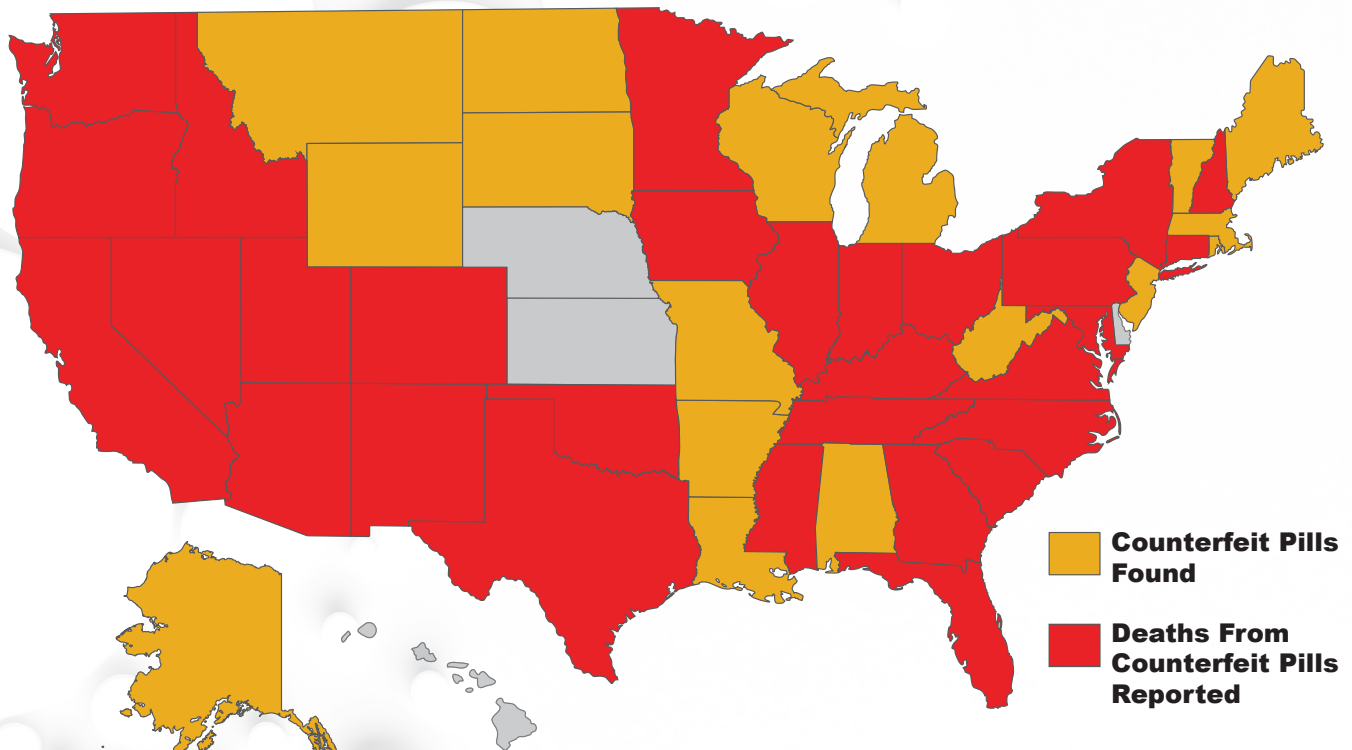


46 STATES HAVE REPORTED **DEADLY COUNTERFEIT PILLS** MADE WITH FENTANYL



Since 2015, fake prescription pills have been found in 46 states, and have killed people in 29 of them.

This map does not include deaths from prescription opioids or illicit drugs.

● **Fake, fentanyl-laced pills have left a trail of bodies**

A father-to-be in Georgia dropped dead after taking a painkiller for a pulled muscle in February 2015.¹ 8 months later, a Californian took part of a Xanax when he couldn't sleep, and never woke up.² Deaths like these have been reported in 29 states.

● **Risks for first responders**

Tiny quantities of fentanyl and fentanyl analogues, which can be ingested orally, inhaled, or injected, can cause illness, respiratory depression, or death.³ Officers, EMTs, nurses, and even working dogs have been treated for fentanyl exposure.⁴

● **Where do these pills come from?**

Criminals bring cheap Chinese fentanyl across U.S. borders, but the drug also comes via the mail. A first-class envelope can conceal enough powdered fentanyl that a person with an inexpensive pill press can make over 120,000 deadly fake pills.⁵

● **How do we stop it?**

Educate Americans about the existence of dangerous counterfeits and oppose efforts to weaken the closed, secure drug supply through importation.



Buy medicine only from licensed U.S. pharmacies selling FDA-approved products.

Contact editors@safemedicines.org to obtain materials about counterfeit drug investigations in your state.

Footnotes

1. “Counterfeit Pill Made With Fentanyl Killed Young Father-To-Be,” The Partnership for Safe Medicines, December 4, 2017, <http://safedr.org/JPGGeorgia>.
2. “Young Californian Dies After Accidentally Taking Counterfeit Xanax,” The Partnership for Safe Medicines, September 27, 2017, <http://safedr.org/ToshA>.
3. *Counterfeit Prescription Pills Containing Fentanyls: A Global Threat*, U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, July 2016, <http://bit.ly/2EzoNmU>.
4. “Police: East Liverpool Officer Accidentally Overdoses on Fentanyl After Making Drug Arrest,” WCPO, May 15, 2017, <http://bit.ly/2HPpKJY>; Andrea K. McDaniels and Erika Butler, “Deputy, Two EMS Providers Treated for Overdose Symptoms Responding to Call,” *The Baltimore Sun*, May 23, 2017, <http://bsun.md/2HP2Pyn>; “Police: 3 Ohio Nurses Treated for Fentanyl Exposure,” *U.S. News & World Report*, August 12, 2017, <http://bit.ly/2FSPjJf>; and Dan Vergano, “These Three Very Good Police Dogs Overdosed on Fentanyl—and Lived,” *Buzzfeed*, July 1, 2017, <http://bzfd.it/2HMguG9>.
5. *Counterfeit Prescription Pills Containing Fentanyl...*, <http://bit.ly/2EzoNmU>.

PSM MEMBERS:

Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy	International Anti-Counterfeiting Coalition	NeedyMeds
Alaska Pharmacists Association	International Health Facility Diversion Association	Nevada Board of Pharmacy
American Association for Homecare	Kidney Cancer Association	New York State Council of Health-System Pharmacists
American College Health Association	The Latino Coalition	North Carolina Association of Pharmacists
American Pharmacists Association	The Life Raft Group	Orange County Health Care Agency
American Society of Health-System Pharmacists	Maine Pharmacy Association	Parenteral Drug Association
Association for Accessible Medicines	Maine Society of Health-System Pharmacists (MSHP)	Pennsylvania Pharmacists Association
Association of Nurses in AIDS Care	Maryland Pharmacists Association	Pennsylvania Society of Health-System Pharmacists
BioForward	Men’s Health Network	Pharmaceutical Industry Labor Management Association
Biotechnology Innovation Organization	Minnesota Pharmacists Association	Pharmaceutical Security Institute (PSI)
California Pharmacists Association	Missouri Pharmacy Association	Pharmacists Planning Services, Inc.
California Society of Health-System Pharmacists	National Alliance for Hispanic Health	RetireSafe
Colorado BioScience Association	National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations	The Sharing Alliance
Community Access National Network	National Alliance on Mental Illness	Spina Bifida Association
Delaware Pharmacists Society	National Association of Boards of Pharmacy	Texas Pharmacy Association
European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations (EFPIA)	National Association of Chain Drug Stores	Texas Society of Health-System Pharmacists
Global Health Policy Institute	National Association of Drug Diversion Investigators	United States Chamber of Commerce
Healthcare Distribution Alliance	National Association of Manufacturers	University of New England College of Pharmacy
HealthCare Institute of New Jersey	National Biopharmaceutical Security Council	University of Texas at Austin College of Pharmacy
Healthcare Leadership Council	National Community Pharmacists Association	Vermont Pharmacists Association
The Hispanic Institute	National Consumers League	Vietnam Veterans of America
International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers & Associates (IFPMA)	National Grange of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry	West Virginia Rx
Illinois Pharmacists Association		WomenHeart - National Coalition for Women with Heart Disease
Institute for Safe Medication Practices		

