Counterfeit Pills

What are they?

Counterfeit pills are fake medications. They may contain fentanyl or methamphetamine and are extremely dangerous because they often appear identical to legitimate prescription pills.

Counterfeit pills containing methamphetamine are highly addictive and act on the central nervous system. Taking even small amounts of meth can result in wakefulness, increased physical activity, decreased appetite, rapid breathing and heart rate, irregular heartbeat, increased blood pressure, and hyperthermia (overheating).

What are the overdose effects?

Fentanyl overdose may result in changes in pupil size, cold and clammy skin, coma, and respiratory failure leading to death. Methamphetamine overdose may result in death from stroke, heart attack, or multiple organ problems caused by overheating. The best way to avoid counterfeit medication is to take only medications prescribed by a licensed medical professional and dispensed by a registered pharmacist.

For drug prevention information, visit DEA’s websites:

- GetSmartAboutDrugs.com
  For Parents, Caregivers, and Educators
- JustThinkTwice.com
  For Teens
- CampusDrugPrevention.gov
  For Colleges and Universities
- dea.gov

Oxycodone: Authentic (left) and counterfeit (right)

Xanax: Authentic (left) and counterfeit (right)

Adderall: Authentic (left) and counterfeit (right)