



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT EMERGING DRUG TRENDS

MEDETOMIDINE

What is Medetomidine?

- A very strong sedative
- Found in the street drug supply in Tennessee
- Almost always found mixed with other drugs, especially opioids like fentanyl
- Effects can last much longer compared to xylazine or fentanyl alone
- Does not seem to cause wounds

**ALSO KNOWN AS
'RHINO TRANQ'**

Main Effects

- Deep sedation, you may be "out" much longer and unexpectedly
- Slowed breathing
- Very slow heartbeat lasting hours
- Low blood pressure
- Feeling dizzy, faint, or blurred vision
- Confusion and possible hallucinations

Withdrawal Harm

Medetomidine can cause unexpected, rapid, and severe withdrawal needing hospital care to prevent severe damage to the heart or brain.

Withdrawal can look like:

- a very fast heartbeat
- very high blood pressure
- uncontrollable nausea and vomiting
- tremors (shaking or twitching)
- heavy sweating
- anxiety and restlessness

Go to the hospital or call 911 if you:

- are going in and out of being alert, feeling very drowsy, confused, less aware of what is happening around you, or hard to wake.
- having more severe withdrawal symptoms than usual
- can't stop throwing up
- having chest pain

Share this care guidance with your doctor.
Scan the QR code or visit tinyurl.com/TNHANmedet





SAFETY TIPS

You Matter

Overdose Danger

With medetomidine in the supply, overdose can look different than what you might expect. What to watch for?

- Focus on breathing, not only responsiveness
- Check that the person takes at least 1 breath every 5 seconds

If breathing stops or is not normal follow standard overdose response:

- Give naloxone and call 911
- Give 1 breath every 5 seconds
- After 2-3 minutes, if breathing is still not normal repeat steps 1 and 2
- If breathing returns to normal, place in recovery position until help arrives



Learn how to respond to an overdose.

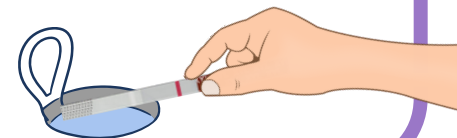
Scan the QR code or visit
tinyurl.com/TNoverdoseGuide



Test Your Supply

Medetomidine strips can detect if medetomidine is in your supply so you can make choices to reduce overdose risk.

Test strips are at some SSPs for free and for sale online.



Start LOW and Go SLOW



Start with less can help you see how you are reacting to a substance. Leave time inbetween doses to feel the full effect.



Both of these can help you make choices to lower your risk of an overdose.

Do Not Use Alone

It is important someone near you can respond if an overdose occurs.

If you are alone consider a safety hotline like Safe Spot at
1-800-972-0590

