

# New Synthetic Drugs Identified in Indiana

## Isotonitazine

Street name: Iso

Isotonitazine is a schedule I synthetic opioid that presents a high risk of abuse. The abuse of this drug has been associated with at least 19 fatalities in the United States.

## Xylazine

Street name: Tranq Dope

Xylazine is a potent  $\alpha_2$  adrenergic blocking agent. Due to its hazardous side effects including sedation, hypotension, and bradycardia, it is only approved for veterinary use, and it is now used as an animal tranquilizer and a sedative, analgesic, and muscle relaxant. It has recently emerged as an adulterating agent in many illicit drug products.

## Brorphine

Street name: Purple Heroin

Brorphine is a potent synthetic opioid that is believed to have a potency similar to fentanyl (50-100 times more potent than morphine) and has been tied to at least 7 deaths across the nation since it emerged in mid-2019.

## INFORMATION TO KNOW

- These synthetic drugs are NOT fentanyl analogs, so they cannot be detected by a fentanyl test strip. These substances are also not included on routine post-mortem toxicology panels.
- It is recommended that naloxone be administered if you suspect someone is overdosing from isotonitazene, brorphine, or another opioid.
- **Xylazine does not bind to the opioid receptor so it will NOT respond to naloxone.** Xylazine should be suspected if someone appears to have an opioid overdose (small pupils, low respiratory rate, unresponsive) but there is no response to naloxone and the patient has a very low heart rate and low blood pressure. Treatment is supportive.



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References:

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  2. Schedules of Controlled Substances: Temporary Placement of Isotonitazene in Schedule I. Drug Enforcement Administration. 21 CFR Part 1308. Accessed November 6, 2020. Available at: [https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/fed\\_regs/rules/2020/fr0820\\_2.htm](https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/fed_regs/rules/2020/fr0820_2.htm).
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  5. Drug Enforcement Administration. Brorphine. Accessed November 9, 2020. Available at: [https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug\\_chem\\_info/brorphine.pdf](https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_chem_info/brorphine.pdf).
  6. Drug-Free Coalition of Tippecanoe County. Three New Powerful Synthetic Opioids Identified in Local and Surrounding State's Illicit Drug Supplies. Accessed November 9, 2020. Available at: <https://drugfreetippecanoe.org/>.
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