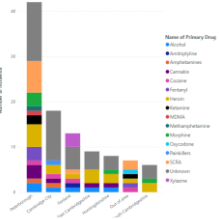


Local Drug Information Newsletter

February 2025
Issue 6



Cambridgeshire

- Over the past 90 days we have received the following information from partner agencies
- 77 overdose/near miss incidents events of which
 - 30 in Peterborough
 - 18 in Cambridge City
 - 11 in Huntingdonshire
 - 10 in Fenland
 - 4 in East Cambridgeshire
 - 2 in South Cambridgeshire
 - 2 linked to the border with Norfolk
- Peterborough Council issued a drug alert on 13th February due to a cluster of young males presenting to Peterborough ED with erratic behaviour. The hospital attendances are believed to be linked to synthetic Cannabinoids (SPICE).
- Over the past 90 days there have been 10 incidents in Peterborough where SCRA (Spice) has been specially identified in the intel report
- We have also been notified of 3 CGL service users in the Fenland area testing positive for xylazine



National

- The number of drug related deaths connected to Nitazenes; Xylazine & Fentanyl continues to increase nationally.
- The latest data as of 20th February 2025 indicates that there have now been 477 nitazene related deaths across the UK with 312 in England and 54 within the East of England.
- Concerns over the rise in cocaine related deaths have been seen in recent media publications
- <https://tinyurl.com/335de7t5>
- Areas have seen the re-emergence of the 'Strawberry Quick' drug hoax. This is NOT a genuine message and has been in circulation for some period, particularly targeting schools. If you receive this message, we urge you to delete and not forward it to colleagues.



Other news

- A national post incident webinar has been held to share learning following the drug related incident in Hull in December 2024 that resulted in 2 fatalities and 70 recorded overdoses.
- A synthetic cannabinoid 'SCRA' was connected to the incident and confirmed by York university to be MDMB Fubinaca a potent SCRA being described locally as 'Russian Spice' also sold under the brand name 'Pandoras box'
- No evidence of Nitazene contamination has been identified in connection to the Hull incident although Naloxone was distributed routinely and remains the appropriate action to take in any overdose situation.
- Synthetic opioid preparedness planning was found to have been invaluable in the local partnership response to the incident

OVERDOSE.
KNOW THE
SIGNS.

OVERDOSE
DEATH IS
PREVENTABLE.

Stay Safe

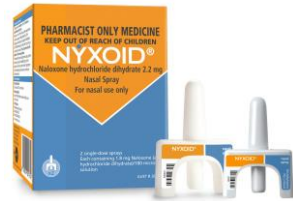
- **Don't use alone** have someone with you
- Go **low and slow** – use smaller amounts than you normally would and wait before continuing.
- **Smoke heroin** rather than inject.
- Make sure you have a **naloxone kit** to hand, you may need to use multiple kits especially if synthetic opioids are involved.
- Be aware of the signs of overdose
- Don't use multiple drugs.
- Particularly avoid consuming other depressant drugs that can increase the risk of respiratory arrest (alcohol, pregabalin, gabapentin or other opiates).
- Be ready to call for help – urgent medical intervention may make all the difference.
CALL AN AMBULANCE

Naloxone saves lives

Naloxone and needle and syringe provision can be sourced from CGL or participating local community pharmacy



[Find a Change Grow Live service near you](#)



Local Drug Information System

Intel form link: <https://forms.office.com/e/EWAWTxCUkP>



Please help us monitor drug related harm

Has a client had a recent overdose or witnessed a recent overdose?

Has a client experienced a drug that was stronger than expected or felt different to normal?

If the answer to either of the above is yes, please consider completing an LDIS form using the QR code provided.