



Drug Alert Watch

Possible Heroin/Fentanyl Combinations – Street Name: Kill or Keel

U . S . D E P A R T M E N T O F J U S T I C E

EWS Report 000005

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New Jersey Department of Health personnel near Camden, New Jersey, reported two incidences of a substance referred to as “kill” or “keel” that has appeared in their area. They believe the substance to be a narcotic, possibly heroin, laced with another substance, likely fentanyl. Fentanyl is a synthetic opiate, approximately 50 times more potent than heroin.

In one incident, the drug was packaged in a blue bag stamped “Kill.” A middle-age adult female, who is a long-time drug abuser, used the drug. She mentioned that heroin laced with fentanyl was available in the local area; that she believed “kill” contained fentanyl; and that, despite an increased risk of overdose, she and other users were drawn to heroin/fentanyl combinations because of their reputation of being more powerful.

In the second incident, local police were dispatched on report of a young male described as acting irrational on a local residential street – the male was ejected from a party for irrational behavior. The male, who appeared to be under the influence of a narcotic, was questioned by police officers and admitted that he had used “keel.” While talking with the officers and first responders, the young man switched between a state of distress and hostility (screaming and kicking) to one of cooperation and calm demeanor (quiet state, mildly sluggish pupils, a pulse rate in the 80s, and normal respiration). The man’s transition in behavior was rapid and initially unexpected by responding personnel. The man’s behavior also is not consistent with typical effects of opioid abuse, suggesting he may have ingested an additional substance.

This SENTRY Watch is based upon source materials that have not been validated and/or researched by NDIC. It is intended to serve as an immediate alert to law enforcement and public health officials of potential substance abuse problems.

If you would like to report an emerging drug issue in your area or have questions or comments about SENTRY, please e-mail us at NDIC.Sentry@usdoj.gov or visit us at www.justice.gov/ndic/sentry