

# JOINT INTREPID LABORATORY

Joint Intelligence National Threat Response – El Paso Illicit Drug Lab



## PRIORITY PROJECT

# Sourcing Xylazine

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTREPID confirms both liquid veterinary preparations and powdered xylazine are being used to adulterate fentanyl. INTREPID observed chemical markers in xylazine seizures that can assist in determining precursors, synthetic routes, and potentially connecting cases.



## INTREPID MISSION

DEA, CBP, & FDA working collaboratively to provide actionable intelligence, scientific support, and research to law enforcement.

11 October 2023



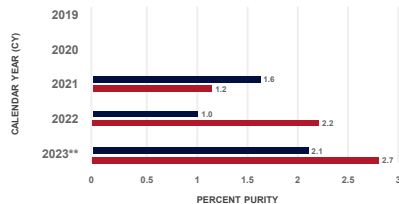
Examples of Materials Tested by INTREPID (source: DEA)

INTREPID found markers that link xylazine to repurposed veterinary preparations. In random, non-statistical testing of 200 fentanyl samples (April 2023), INTREPID found that 84 contained xylazine. Of those, 14 (17%) of them contained markers that link xylazine to veterinary preparations.

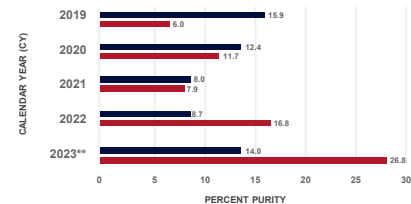
**PERCENT FENTANYL SAMPLES ADULTERATED WITH XYLAZINE**  
(source: DEA laboratory system)

CY	FENTANYL/XYLAZINE (TABLETS)	FENTANYL/XYLAZINE (POWDER)
2019	0.9%	7.7%
2020	1.9%	11.8%
2021	4.4%	19.0%
2022	7.7%	24.0%
2023**	5.2%	27.0%

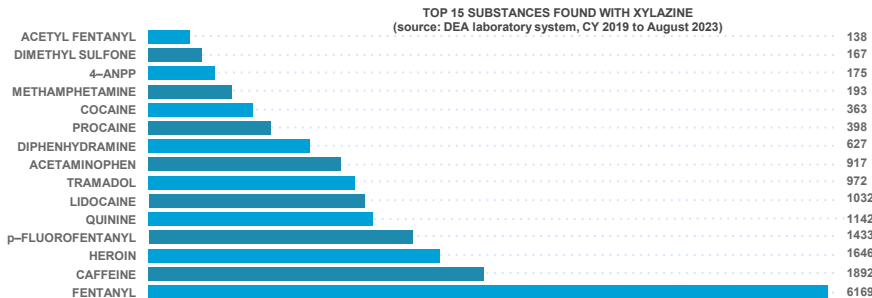
AVERAGE PURITIES FOR TABLETS CONTAINING BOTH FENTANYL AND XYLAZINE BY CY  
(source: DEA Fentanyl Profiling Program)



AVERAGE PURITIES FOR POWDERS CONTAINING BOTH FENTANYL AND XYLAZINE BY CY  
(source: DEA Fentanyl Profiling Program)



■ Xylazine ■ Fentanyl



## GOALS



In-Depth Chemical Analysis



Linking Seizures



Geosourcing Fentanyl Seizures

## # OF EXHIBITS

INTREPID-tested samples had detectable levels of manufacturing impurities.

*Differing impurity profiles indicate differences in the manufacturing processes among suppliers.*

INTREPID is working to exploit these differences to meet its goals.

\*\*Data Extracted Through August 2023