



EMIHS 5-minute Lineup Drill

Responder Safety: Fentanyl Accidental Harm Myth

There has been widely circulated and misleading claims that an opioid overdose can occur just by coming into physical contact with trace amounts of fentanyl. Experts in the field of medicine and toxicology have said that this is extremely unlikely. It is important to have the facts on this topic so that you can be well informed about and prioritize the risks you may face in the field.



Best Practices – follow [FCGO 20-03](#)

1. Gloves – required for all patient encounters
2. Surgical mask and eye protection – for all patient encounters
3. Employ proper decontamination procedures after patient care to include hand washing, shower, change of uniform, etc.
4. Stick to the [EMS PPE Plan](#) and you're good to go!

Check it out for yourself:

1. **[Can touch this: training to correct police officer beliefs about overdose from incidental contact with fentanyl](#)**
2. **[Fact Check – Accidental Fentanyl Exposure](#)**

