



In late March 2021, your Michigan Poison Center was notified of a reported exposure to a novel illicit substance: bucinnazine.

- Bucinnazine is an opioid analgesic, widely used in China to treat cancer pain since the 1980s. It has also been identified in recreational abuse in China.
- Bucinnazine has similar analgesic potency to morphine, but a shorter duration of action. Studies have demonstrated use can lead to tolerance and dependence.
- Bucinnazine is among the most potent of the compound class piperazine-amides. It is classified as a "novel psychoactive substance" and is not yet scheduled in the United States, therefore not technically illegal.
- Bucinnazine is readily available for purchase via the internet. It can be ingested, inhaled, vaped, snorted, or used via intravenous or intramuscular injection. Use of this substance can cause severe symptoms including sedation, slowed heart rate, low blood pressure, and slowed or absent breathing.
- Bucinnazine will not appear on routine drug abuse screenings, and requires more comprehensive, specialized testing for identification.
- Naloxone reverses the effects and can place users at risk of precipitated withdrawal.
- Anyone who has purchased bucinnazine-containing products and experiences adverse effects should seek medical care immediately.

For questions regarding bucinnazine or any other substances, please call your Michigan Poison Center at

**1-800-222-1222**

to speak with our Specialist in Poison Information. Health care professionals may also request to speak with our board-certified toxicologists.

MICHIGAN POISON CENTER

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