

# Recreational fentanyl use levelling out in Halton: Police

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 Costing about \$30 for a tenth of a gram referred to as a point fentanyl can be consumed in various ways from injection, powder form or as a liquid, it can be smoked like crack and is even available in slow-release patches, which can last up to 72 hours.

The patch is basically prescribed medically for people who are in chronic, chronic pain or are terminally ill, said the HRPS drug officer, adding a story about one addict they found rummaging through the trash bins behind a local hospital looking for used patches to suck on to get high.

The officer added large profit margins as another reason for the sudden rise in popularity of the drug, indicated shipments of the powder or crystal form of drug costing tens of thousands of dollars often from China can be converted into millions here.

I'm finding that the most-typical users are experienced opiate users. So it's not teenagers, it's not young 20s I would say it's the older 25-45 age range. It's those people who have been using heroin for the majority of their life and now they're aware of this thing called fentanyl.

Halton police concluded a blitz initiative aimed at fentanyl trafficking last October in conjunction with Durham Police and Crime Stoppers dubbed Project Explorer, which led to the arrest of some traffickers in Halton.

Police credit that initiative at least in part for the levelling-off in trends they've noticed across the region in recent months. Visit [halton.ca](http://halton.ca) to view the full 2006-15 Halton Region Opioid Report.

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