



STREET CHECK COMMUNITY DRUG CHECKING

This resource was adapted from [Common Cuts and Buffs found in drugs using FTIR](#) from the British Columbia Centre on Substance Use (BCCSU). For more information, please visit streetcheck.org or email maddsbrandeis@gmail.com.

Common Inactive Cuts Found in Opioids & Stimulants Using FTIR

Substance	What is it?	What does it do?
Dicalcium Phosphate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Substance commonly used as a component in food, vitamins, and pharmaceutical tablets. - Can be safely consumed in moderate amounts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ingestion of large quantities may cause abdominal cramps, nausea, vomiting, and/or diarrhea.
Inositol (sugar)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Type of sugar that naturally occurs in fruits, beans, grains, and nuts. - Considered a pseudovitamin and may cause nausea when ingested in high doses. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sugars are used to bulk out a product to add weight (they are buffs). - Sugars also dissolve easily and none are known to be harmful at normal amounts.
Lactose (sugar)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Used as a pill filler and naturally occurring sugar in the milk of most mammals. - Generally considered safe to consume and non-toxic. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sugars are used to bulk out a product to add weight (they are buffs). - Sugars also dissolve easily and none are known to be harmful at normal amounts.
Mannitol (sugar)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Natural sweetener found in fruits and vegetables and used in diabetic-friendly foods. - Rapidly excreted in urine when injected or taken orally and may cause mild dehydration when taken in high amounts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sugars are used to bulk out a product to add weight (they are buffs). - Sugars also dissolve easily and none are known to be harmful at normal amounts.
Sucrose (sugar)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Type of sugar that is commonly used as a bulking agent, particularly in cocaine. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sugars are used to bulk out a product to add weight (they are buffs). - Sugars also dissolve easily and none are known to be harmful at normal amounts.
Methylsulfonylmethane (MSM)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chemical that occurs naturally in humans, some green plants, and animals but can be lab made. - Common cut of methamphetamine found in powder and crystal forms. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dissolves easily, not known to be harmful to humans or animals. - May be helpful in pain relief and tissue regeneration.
Microcrystalline Cellulose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Common filler in pills obtained from purified plant material (wood pulp). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Generally nontoxic, but acts as a dietary fiber and when ingested in high doses may harm the digestive system interfering with nutrient absorption.
Niacinamide (Vitamin B3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A form of vitamin B3, a water soluble vitamin. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cases of liver toxicity are reported with use. - Can cause stomach upset, gas, dizziness, headache, and rash.
Flour/Starch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Common bulking agents, particularly in cocaine. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Not harmful and minimal risks associated.
Vitamin C (Ascorbic Acid)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Naturally produced in fruits and vegetables. - Commonly used to treat and prevent the common cold and several infections. - Generally nontoxic, but may cause nausea, headaches, stomach cramps, and kidney stones. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Given away at harm reduction agencies and therefore has been seen as an adulterant in opioids. - Commonly used to help substances dissolve for injection.