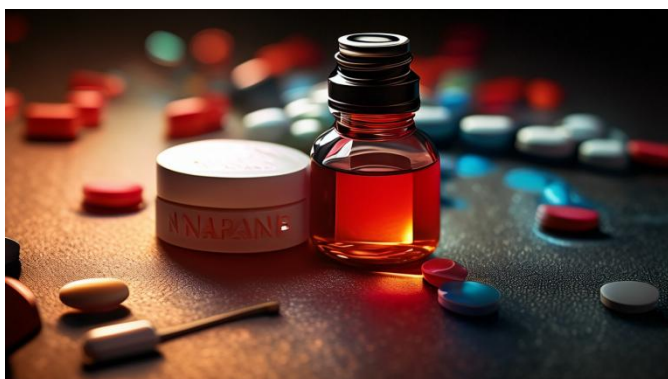




A losing battle

文章导读：芬太尼（Fentanyl）是一种合成阿片类药物，属于麻醉剂类药物，作用强劲且快速，常用于手术麻醉和严重疼痛的治疗。然而，由于其高度成瘾性和危险性，分芬太尼也被滥用作为毒品。美国近年来面临着分芬太尼滥用的严重问题。分芬太尼的滥用导致了大量的药物过量死亡案件，尤其是在非法市场上，分芬太尼被掺假成其他药物，增加了滥用者的风险。此外，分芬太尼的高度成瘾性也使得滥用者很难自行戒断，容易陷入恶性循环。美国政府和各州当局正在采取一系列措施来应对分芬太尼滥用问题，包括加强监管、加大打击非法贩卖行为、提供更多的药物戒断和康复服务等。然而，分芬太尼滥用问题依然严峻，需要全社会的共同努力来有效遏制。



[1] Fentanyl cannot be defeated without new **tactics**¹

[1] 没有新的战术就无法击败芬太尼

1. **Tactics** ['tæktɪks]

n. 策略，战术

[2] IT IS OVER 50 years since Richard Nixon **initiated**² America's war on drugs, yet victory seems further away than ever. In the 12 months to September 2023 more than 105,000 Americans died from overdoses—almost double the number killed in combat in Vietnam, Afghanistan and Iraq. No matter how **zealously**³ the government **patrols**⁴ the border and how **ferociously**⁵ it pursues traffickers, the problem only seems to get worse.

[2] 理查德·尼克松发动美国禁毒战争已经 50 多年了，但胜利似乎比以往任何时候都更遥远。在截至 2023 年 9 月的 12 个月里，超过 105000 名美国人死于服药过量，几乎是越南、阿富汗和伊拉克战争中死亡人数的两倍。无论政府多么积极地巡逻边境，多么凶猛地追捕贩运者，问题似乎只会变得更糟。

2. **Initiated** [ɪ'nɪʃieɪtɪd]

v. 发起，开始

3. **Zealously** ['zeləsli]

adv. 热情地，热心地

4. **Patrols** [pə'trəʊlz]

n. 巡逻，巡查

5. **Ferociously** [fə'roufəsli]

adv. 凶猛地，残忍地

[3]The **deterioration**⁶ in the past decade is largely owing to fentanyl,a synthetic **opioid**⁷ that is 50 times more potent than heroin and is involved in about 70%of drug-related deaths in America. It started as a substitute for opioids supplied under prescription, but its continuing spread is the logical outcome of the war on drugs.Peddling **narcotics**⁸ is so lucrative that traffickers have an incentive to innovate,the better to **evade**⁹ controls.Fentanyl and its **analogues**¹⁰ are a near-perfect product:so cheap to make that even sold for 50 cents a pill,it is still hugely profitable;so powerful and addictive that a captive market is almost guaranteed;so easy to make,with such a variety of common chemicals,that it can be produced more or less anywhere;so concentrated that it is easy to hide and smuggle.

[3]过去十年的恶化主要是由于芬太尼，这是一种合成阿片类药物，其药效是海洛因的 50 倍，在美国约 70%的毒品相关死亡病例中涉及芬太尼。它最初是根据处方提供的阿片类药物的替代品，但其持续传播是禁毒战争的必然结果。贩卖毒品是如此有利可图，以至于毒贩有创新的动机，从而更好地逃避控制。芬太尼及其类似物是一种近乎完美的产品：制作成本低廉，即使每粒售价 5 美分，它仍然有利可图；如此强大和令人上瘾，几乎可以保证垄断市场；使用各种常见的化学物质，制作起来非常容易，几乎可以在任何地方生产；如此集中以至于很容易藏匿和走私。

6. **Deterioration** [dɪˌtɪriəˈreɪʃən]

n. 恶化，退化

7. **Opioid** ['ɒpi,ɔɪd]

n. 阿片类物质

8. **Narcotics** [nɑːˈkɒtɪks]

n. 麻醉药，麻醉毒品

9. **Evade** [ɪˈveɪd]

v. 逃避，规避

10. **Analogues** ['ænəˌlɒɡz]

n. 类似物，类比物

[4]No wonder America is struggling to control fentanyl (see Briefing).A crackdown on the Sinaloa gang in Mexico,said by American authorities to be the biggest source of it,has simply caused production to **atomise**¹¹.Attempts to stop Chinese exports of ingredients are **hampered**¹² by ever-evolving recipes for the drug and ever-adapting supply chains,with India,for instance, becoming the latest source of chemical **precursors**¹³.A focus by America's border patrol on crossings near San Diego,which was once the main **conduit**¹⁴ into America,has caused smuggling to shift eastwards,into Arizona.

11. **Atomise** ['ætəˌmaɪz]

v. 原子化，使分解成原子，减少

12. **Hamper** ['hæmpər]

v. 妨碍，阻碍

13. **Precursors** [priˈkɜːsərz]

n. 先驱，先导

14. **Conduit** ['kɒnˌdʊt]

<p>[4]难怪美国正在努力控制芬太尼(见简报)。美国当局称墨西哥的锡那罗亚帮派是毒品的最大来源，对该帮派的镇压导致了毒品产量的急剧下降。阻止中国出口原料的努力受到不断变化的药物配方和不断适应的供应链的阻碍，例如，印度成为化学前体的最新来源。美国边境巡逻队把重点放在圣地亚哥附近的过境点上，这里曾经是进入美国的主要通道，导致走私活动向东转移，进入亚利桑那州。</p>	<p>n. 导管，管道，通道</p>
<p>[5]Predictably,many politicians think the best response is extreme tactics that are themselves also the logical culmination¹⁵ of the war on drugs.Senior Republicans have called for an invasion of Mexico,to eradicate¹⁶ the gangs (although Republicans in Congress have turned down Joe Biden's request for more funds to patrol the border).Donald Trump is said to have contemplated¹⁷ missile strikes on traffickers' hideouts¹⁸ when he was president.</p>	<p>15. Culmination [ˌkʌlməˈneɪʃən] n. 最高点，顶点</p> <p>16. Eradicate [ɪˈrædɪˌkeɪt] v. 根除，消灭</p> <p>17. Contemplated [ˈkɒntəmˌpleɪtəd] v. 沉思，考虑</p>
<p>[5]不出所料，许多政客认为最好的应对措施是极端策略，而这些策略本身也是禁毒战争的逻辑高潮。资深共和党人呼吁入侵墨西哥，以根除帮派（尽管国会共和党人拒绝了乔·拜登关于增加边境巡逻资金请求）。据说，唐纳德·特朗普在担任总统时就曾考虑对人口贩子的藏身处进行导弹袭击。</p>	<p>18. Hideouts [ˈhaɪdˌaʊts] n. 藏身处，藏匿处</p>
<p>[6]To its credit,Mr Biden's administration is already taking a broader approach.For the first time,the federal government is spending more to deter use and treat addicts than it is on trying to disrupt the flow of drugs.It has patched up¹⁹ relations with China well enough to resume²⁰ efforts to curb the trade in precursors across the Pacific.Mindful of how mutable²¹ supply chains are,it is trying to build a global coalition to keep better track of chemicals.These are welcome steps,but they should go further.If it is impossible to stop fentanyl getting to consumers,more must be done to help them cope with it.American authorities should distribute simple tests to let users check whether their drugs have,as is often the case,been mixed with cheap,addictive fentanyl;they should increase access to treatment schemes involving substitutes such as</p>	<p>19. Patch up [pætʃˈʌp] v. 补缀，修补</p> <p>20. Resume [rɪˈzʊm] v. 恢复，重新开始</p> <p>21. Mutable [ˈmjuːtəbl] adj. 易变的，可变的</p> <p>22. Antidote [ˈæntɪˌdaʊt] n. 解毒剂，矫正方法</p> <p>23. Revamp [rɪˈvæmp] v. 翻新，改进；大修；修改</p> <p>24. Woeful [ˈwʊfəl]</p>

<p>methadone;they should ensure that the antidote²² for overdoses is widely available;they should revamp²³ drug education,which is woeful²⁴.And they should decriminalize²⁵ less lethal drugs,such as cocaine,so as to free time and scarce funds to focus on the one that is killing Americans in droves.</p>	<p>adj. 悲伤的, 令人悲伤的; 不幸的</p> <p>25. Decriminalize [di'kræmɪnə,ləɪz] v. 废除某事的刑事处罚</p>
<p>[6]值得称赞的是,拜登政府已经采取了更广泛的做法。联邦政府在阻止吸毒和治疗瘾君子方面的支出首次超过了试图扰乱毒品流通的支出。它已经很好地修复了与中国的关系,恢复了遏制太平洋地区前体贸易的努力。考虑到供应链的可变性,它正试图建立一个全球联盟,以更好地跟踪化学品。这些都是值得欢迎的步骤,但应该走得更远。如果无法阻止芬太尼向消费者传播,就必须采取更多措施帮助他们应对。美国当局应该分发简单的测试,让使用者检查他们的药物是否与廉价、易上瘾的芬太尼混合,这是经常发生的情况;它们应增加获得涉及美沙酮等替代品的治疗计划的机会;他们应确保广泛提供过量用药的解药;他们应该改进目前可悲的毒品教育。他们还应该将不那么致命的毒品合法化,比如可卡因,这样就可以腾出时间和有限的资金来专注于那些正在大批杀害美国人的毒品。</p>	

<p>[7]Politicians of all stripes dislike such ideas,since they appear to condone²⁶ taking drugs.America's are unlikely to try anything so radical.But fentanyl is already a problem in Canada and is spreading in Mexico,too.Even more potent synthetic opioids called nitazenes have arrived in Britain.If the world is to cope it will,like the traffickers,have to innovate.</p>	<p>26. Condone [kən'daʊn] v. 宽恕, 原谅</p>
<p>[7]形形色色的政客都不喜欢这种想法,因为他们似乎纵容吸毒。美国不太可能尝试如此激进的做法。但芬太尼在加拿大已经是一个问题,而且还在墨西哥蔓延。甚至更强效的合成阿片类药物 nitazene 也已抵达英国。如果世界要应对,就必须像贩运者一样进行创新。</p>	

一、内容概括

Despite decades of the war on drugs, the battle against fentanyl remains elusive. With over 105,000 Americans dying from overdoses in a year, the synthetic opioid's potency and profitability drive traffickers to constantly innovate, making control efforts increasingly challenging. Traditional approaches like border

patrols and crackdowns have proven ineffective, leading to calls for extreme measures like invasion and missile strikes. While some progress has been made in deterring use and treating addiction, a more comprehensive strategy involving harm reduction, treatment access, and global cooperation is essential. To address the fentanyl crisis effectively, innovative solutions and a shift towards public health-focused initiatives are crucial in combating the widespread impact of this deadly drug.

尽管与毒品的战争已经进行了几十年，但与芬太尼的斗争仍然难以捉摸。每年有超过 10.5 万美国人死于过量服用，合成阿片类药物的效力和盈利能力促使贩运者不断创新，使控制工作越来越具有挑战性。边境巡逻和镇压等传统方法已被证明是无效的，导致人们呼吁采取入侵和导弹袭击等极端措施。虽然在阻止使用和治疗成瘾方面取得了一些进展，但必须制定一项涉及减少危害、获得治疗和全球合作的更全面战略。要有效应对芬太尼危机，创新的解决办法和转向以公共卫生为重点的举措对于消除这种致命药物的广泛影响至关重要。

二、积累表达

1. 表达“妨碍、阻碍”

1.1 Hinder

The bad weather hindered our progress on the construction project.

(恶劣的天气妨碍了我们在建设项目上的进展。)

1.2 Impede

The roadworks have impeded traffic flow in the city center.

(道路施工阻碍了市中心的交通流动。)

1.3 Obstruct

The fallen tree obstructed the path, making it difficult to pass.

(倒下的树木阻碍了道路，使得通过变得困难。)

1.4 Inhibit

Fear can inhibit one's ability to take risks.

(恐惧会阻碍一个人冒险的能力。)

1.5 Block

The strike blocked the company's operations for several days.

(罢工阻碍了公司的运营数天。)

2. 表达“宽恕、原谅”

2.1 Forgiveness

She found it in her heart to offer him forgiveness for his betrayal.

(她心怀宽恕，原谅了他的背叛。)

2.2 Pardon

I hope you can find it in your heart to pardon me for my mistake.

(希望你能原谅我的错误。)

2.3 Mercy

The judge showed mercy and decided to reduce the sentence.

(法官宽恕了他，决定减轻判决。)

2.4 Absolution

The priest offered him absolution for his sins.

(牧师为他赦免了他的罪过。)

2.5 Excuse

Please excuse my behavior, I was under a lot of stress.

(请原谅我的行为，我当时压力很大。)