

# NITAZENE-TYPE DRUGS IN THE DARKNET ENVIRONMENT



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18<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2024

# BENZIMIDAZOLE OPIOIDS – “NITAZENES”

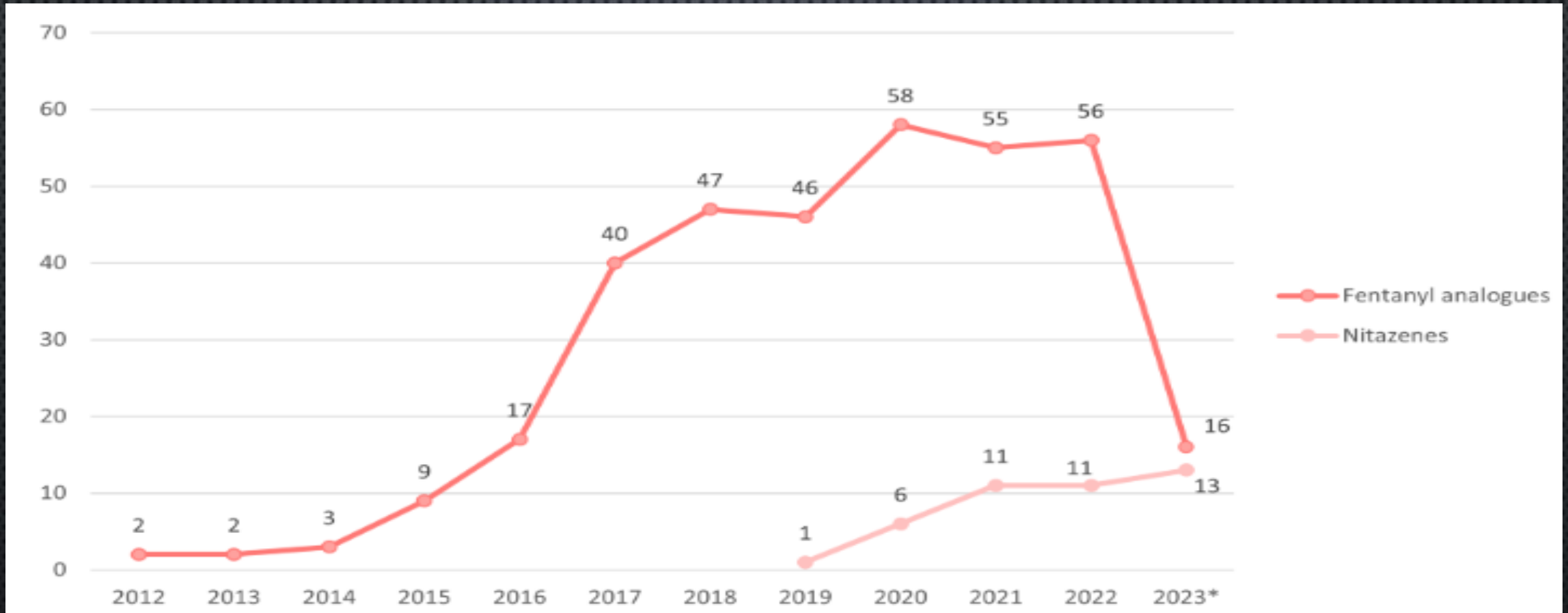
- NEW SYNTHETIC OPIOIDS SINCE 2020 BUT SYNTHESIZED IN 1950s
- MU-RECEPTOR AGONISTS → RISKS OF RESPIRATORY DEPRESSION
- COMPARABLE TO FENTANYL BUT NOT DETECTABLE USING FENTANYL TEST STRIPS
- UNINTENTIONAL OVERDOSE DEATHS IN CANADA, US, UK, AUSTRALIA, EUROPE

	Relative potency to heroin
Heroin	1
Fentanyl	50
Metonitazene	50
Protonitazene	100
Isotonitazene	250
Etonitazene	500

Source: Holland et al., 2024, Nitazenes—heralding a second wave for the UK drug-related death crisis? *The Lancet Public Health*, 9(2)



# UNODC EWA: NITAZENES – A NEW GROUP OF SYNTHETIC OPIOIDS EMERGES





Source: UNODC (2024)






Short communication

# “Etazene, safer than heroin and fentanyl”: Non-fentanyl novel synthetic opioid listings on one darknet market

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<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.drugalcdep.2021.108790> 

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## Highlights

- 17 non-fentanyl novel synthetic opioids detected on EmpireMarket (06/2020–08/2020).
- Non-fentanyl novel synthetic opioids represented 2.9 % of all opioids advertised.
- 587 items sold during the study period for an average weight between 858 g and 2.7 kg.



# DATA COLLECTION AND OVERALL DATASET

- DEDICATED WEB CRAWLERS AND HTML PARSERS
- 13MILLION+ DRUG LISTINGS COLLECTED FROM 48 CRYPTOMARKETS SINCE 2018
- **NITAZENE**: 11 CRYPTOMARKETS FROM AUG 2020 – AUG 2024  
> 8,505 ADS
- 18 NITAZENES + “FAKE PILLS” LACED WITH NITAZENE



## BACK IN 2019



- WHITE HOUSE MARKET, **FEBRUARY 2019**, ETONITAZENE FROM CHINA TO THE WW, 1G = USD280
- “PURE ETONITAZENE HCL SHIPPED FROM CHINA, PURITY IS AROUND 97%. APPEARANCE IS WHITE POWDER. LIMITED STOCK, 50G! NEXT BATCH WILL BE READY IN 15 DAYS.”

# NITAZENE SUBSTANCE CHARACTERISTICS

Substances	#	%
Etazene*	2207	27.5%
Metonitazene*	1417	17.6%
Protonitazene*	1283	16.0%
Isotonitazene*	1044	13.0%
etonitazepyne	661	8.2%
butonitazene	469	5.8%
fluonitazene	248	3.1%
etomethazene	197	2.5%
protonitazepyne	166	2.1%
etonitazene	91	1.1%
metonitazepyne	69	0.9%
ndesethyletonitazene	68	0.8%
ndesethylisotonitazene	43	0.5%
ndesethylprotonitazene	24	0.3%
isotonitazepyne	16	0.2%
etodesnitazene	12	0.1%
metodesnitazene	10	0.1%
methoxynitazene	9	0.1%

- WIDE RANGE: 0.05G (ETAZENE) - 2KG (PROTONITAZENE)
- 92.5% POWDER FORM, 3.8% PILLS, 2.9% NASAL SPRAY, 0.8% OTHERS (TABS, BLOTTERS, CAPSULES)
- PRICE: 0.05G FOR USD10 → USD200/G  
2KG FOR USD21K → USD10/G
- 52.6% FROM CHINA / 18.6% FROM US



# FAKE PILLS

- 320 ADS WITH MENTION OF A N OXYCODONE/PERCOCET/ROXY
- 9 METONITAZENE (SWEDEN ONLY)
- OVER 95% ARE US TO US ONLY
- USD7.7 PER PILL (DISCOUNT FO

25g Protonitazene Pure Powder (Pressed ROXY M30 Powder) USA-USA

## Pictures



## Listing

pure powder very powerful . Use with cautions

Protonitazene is a particular synthetic opioid. Much more potent than heroin and morphine . Most of the pressed m30s are being pressed with Protonitazene

USA-USA Shipping , also can ship to Canada and Australia and UK . All orders come with tracking . please dont ask me tracking number within 10

everything based on tracking for reship or refund.  
im not responsible for bad drops ! if tracking says delivered then thats it.

[Drugs](#) » [Opioids - RCs](#)

Price (USD): **2300.00** Price (XMR): **13.355786539690** Listing type: **Escrow**

Viewed: **405 times**

Stock: **Available** Shipping from **United States** to **United States** Unit: **Gram**



# FROM “STRONG AS FENTANYL, SAFE AS MARIJUANA” TO “DEATH DOPE”

- **2020:** “500MG PURE ETAZENE - STRONG AS FENTANYL, SAFE AS MARIJUANA”  
“10G ETAZENE MIX 1:2 SAFER THAN HEROINE AND FENTANYL”
- **2021:** “ISOTONITAZENE - 250 TIMES STRONGER THAN MORPHINE (NO FENTANYL ANALOG!!)”  
“TEN G ISOTONITAZENE (LIKE FENTANYL ;) NEW OPIOID!!”
- **2022:** “ETOMETHAZENE 100G SAFE REPLACEMENT FOR FENTANYL, HEROIN, OXYCODONE, ETAZENE”  
“1G PROTONITAZENE HCL GRIM REAPER DOPE”
- **2023:** “2G- PROTONITAZENE BEST QUALITY A+++ ”  
“10MG PERCOCET QUALITY PRESSED WITH ISOTONITAZENE (ZERO FENT ZERO METH )”
- **2024:** “1G PROTONITAZENE DEATH DOPE”  
“1G NDE N-DESETHYLETONITAZENE NEW HIGH GRADE GRIM REAPER DOPE”



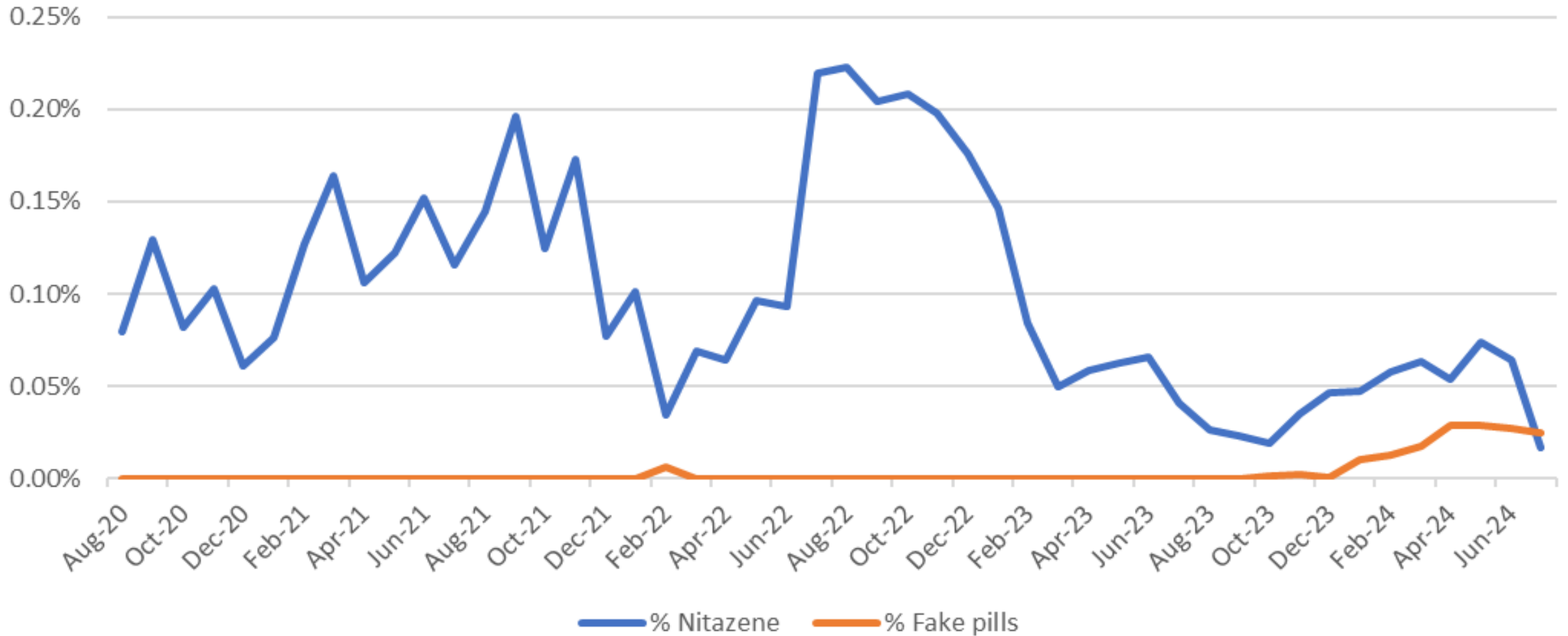
# NITAZENE IN/TO THE UK

- 83.0% ADS COULD REACH UK (UK + EUROPE + WORLDWIDE)
- 3.3% ADS ORIGINATED FROM THE UK
- 43.3% METONITAZENE, 35.3% ETAZENE, 11.6% PROTONITAZENE, 9.7% ISOTONITAZENE
- PRICE METONITAZENE: 0.2G → 25GBP / 1KG → 14KGBP
- ONLY 32 ADS IN 2024, NONE SINCE JUNE



# NITAZENE OVER TIME

Percentage of nitazene- and fake pill-related ads



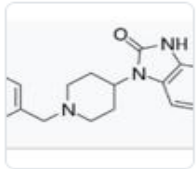
# EMERGING SYNTHETIC OPIOIDS

Methiodone.HCL 5-100g

SR-17018.HCL 5-100g

50mg~1000mg Cychlorphine | Noble Dope | Very  
SPIROCHLORPHINE .HCL 5-100g

## Pictures



## Listing

SR-17018 is a drug which acts as a biased agonist at the  $\mu$ -opioid receptor selective for activation of the G-protein signalling pathway over  $\beta$ -arrestin recruitment. In animal studies it produces analgesic effects but with less respiratory depression and development of tolerance than conventional opioids.

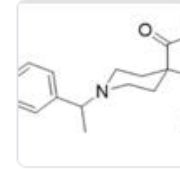
This product is intended for laboratory research purposes only and is not to be used for any other purposes.

ALL SHIPMENTS CONTAIN A TRACKING NUMBER IF YOUR ORDER WILL NOT BE DELIVERED DO NOT WORRIES WE WILL RESEND IT ONE TIME MORE FOR FREE.

[Drugs](#) » [Opioids - RCs](#)

Price (USD): **150.00** Price (XMR): **0.869666048237** Listing type: [Escrow](#)

## Pictures



## Listing

One of last of the janssen X-files to appear in literature :  
Janssen 1978 MOR binding Affinity data vs diverse set of ligands.:  
EC50=5x affinity of fentanyl:  
2011-2018 duchess extensive human trials confirm human euphoriant value, well above par, with potency value of approx. 2x fentanyl. most impressive janssen X-files euphoriant to date!  
A good sweet spot, both in potency, euphoria and duration of action is spirochlorphine (R6890). which is slightly longer duration than spirorphine

ALL SHIPMENTS CONTAIN A TRACKING NUMBER IF YOUR ORDER WILL NOT BE DELIVERED DO NOT WORRIES WE WILL RESEND IT ONE TIME MORE FOR FREE.

[Drugs](#) » [Opioids - RCs](#)

Price (USD): **270.00** Price (XMR): **1.572876616568** Listing type: [Escrow](#)



# TO CONCLUDE

- NITAZENES PRESENT SINCE FEB 2019 BUT FADING;
- PRESENT ON THE UK MARKET PRIOR JULY 2024;
- POTENTIAL NEW OPIOID REPLACEMENTS;
- CRYPTOMARKETS: GOOD EARLY WARNING INDICATOR.

Write something like:

"Please use a VPN before connecting to Telegram. Paid for with Monero — We suggest Mullvad for \$5/month for 5 devices."

(Or, if they know how, they can connect through Whonix.)

As of today, Telegram is updating its privacy policy.

"Telegram now shares users' IP and phone number on legal requests"

Telegram will now share users' phone numbers and IP addresses with law enforcement if they are found to be violating the platform's rules following a valid legal request.

According to a newly updated privacy policy announced by CEO Pavel Durov on Monday, Telegram will comply with such requests only after receiving a valid court order confirming that the user is a suspect in a criminal case that breaches the platform's Terms of Service.

Previously, Telegram's policy limited sensitive user information sharing to cases involving terror suspects.

"If Telegram receives a valid order from the relevant judicial authorities that confirms you're a suspect in a case involving criminal activities that violate the Telegram Terms of Service, we will perform a legal analysis of the request and may disclose your IP address and phone number to the relevant authorities," Durov said today.

"If any data is shared, we will include such occurrences in a quarterly transparency report published at: <https://t.me/transparency>."

However, Telegram's transparency submissions bot is not yet functional. A message stating, "We are updating this bot with current data. Please come back within the next few days," implies that Telegram is still working on bringing it online.

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Durov also revealed that Telegram had improved its search feature, which is known for widespread abuse to sell and promote illegal goods. He said a dedicated team has been working over the last few weeks to remove problematic content from the platform's search results.



**THANK YOU**