

10. April 2018

## Reports of dangerous drugs in the Blackburn area

# WARNING

### Small blue pills sold as Vallium

A number of drug users in the area have been taken to hospital after taking small blue pills sold as **'vallium'** (10mg diazepam).



- **It is at present unknown what is in these pills:** They may contain a higher dose of 'vallium' (diazepam); similar drugs (benzodiazepines) that are more potent or; they may contain different drugs altogether.

Most vallium (diazepam) sold on the street is **'fake'**. Pills can be just about any shape or colour. Some **similar drugs** (benzodiazepines) are 20 times as strong as diazepam.

#### If you must use:

- **Don't use alone:** look after your friends.
- **Test dose:** if you must use; start with a small test dose (1/2 a pill) and wait at least an hour before taking more.
- **Be aware of overdose risk:** the risk of overdose is much higher when vallium (diazepam) is taken together with alcohol, heroin or any other depressant drugs.

#### If a friend is in trouble:

- **Ring for an ambulance:** place unconscious people on their side so they don't choke on vomit and ring for an ambulance.
- **Use Naloxone if you have it:** Naloxone will not reverse the effects of drugs like diazepam, but will reverse the effects of opioid drugs like heroin that have also been taken. **If unsure what has been taken naloxone should still be administered.**

#### Help is available:

- Vallium (diazepam) is highly addictive. For long term users stopping suddenly can be dangerous.
- There are local services available that can help.

**Inspire.** Integrated Prevention and Recovery Service  
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