



Substitution substances from a prescribing doctor always outmatch any stuff you get on the black market!

Maybe diamorphine treatment (= pharmaceutical heroine prescribed by a doctor) is an option for you. Diamorphine has to be injected by yourself under medical supervision. This treatment will be available in Berlin in summer 2013.

**GET FURTHER INFORMATION AND ADVICE
AT THE FIXPUNKT-BUSES:**

For instance at the Health-Care Bus
("Gesundheitsmobil")

check sites and opening times via
http://www.fixpunkt-berlin.de/index.php?id=zeiten_gesundheitsmobil

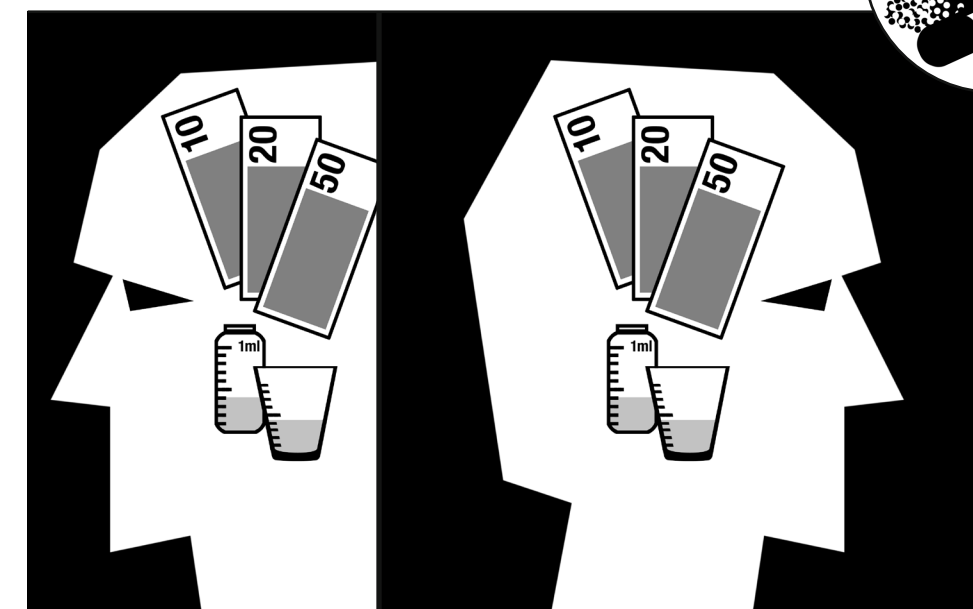
**Further information
and contact:**

- verein@fixpunkt.org
- www.fixpunkt.org

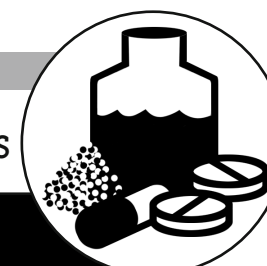
Last update: October 2012

Fixpunkt

Reichenberger Str. 131
10999 Berlin



Black Market on substitution substances



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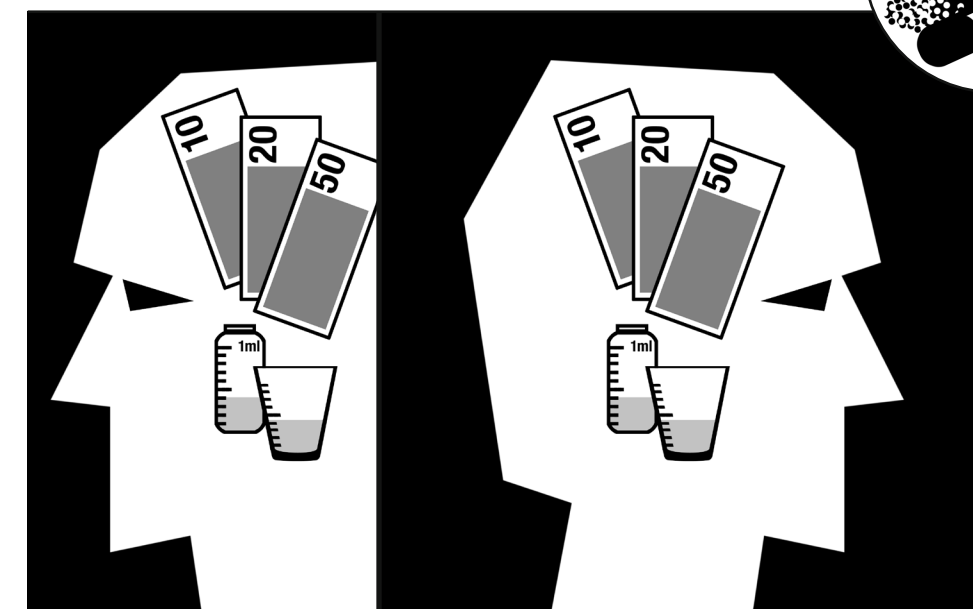
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Black Market on substitution substances

At well-known hot spots at the drugscene dealers are illegally selling substitution-substances such as Methadone and Polamidone. We don't know this for sure about substances like Subutex/Buprenorphine.

Methadone comes in small brown bottles from pharmacies, plastic urinetest-cups, little film-jars, or in hip flasks. Polamidone normally comes in vials as packed by the producer. Prices: for 1 ml. Methadone you pay 1 EURO, 10ml original packed Polamidone costs about 25 EURO's.

Black market Methadone is diluted up to 50% with water. Even with original packed Polamidone dealers use tricks to dilute the substance.

RISKS FOR YOUR HEALTH:

Risks for your health (overdose, infections) using black market substances are as high as the heroine you buy there;

You never can tell if and to which grade the stuff is diluted. Even if you know for sure, getting the right dosage is still very difficult, especially if

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you are not using Methadone or Polamidone on a regular basis. So the risk of an overdose is very real! This is shown by the high numbers of drug-related deaths with Methadone found in their bodies, without the people having been in a regular Methadone treatment.

The methadone you get at your pharmacy or from your prescribing doctor is not a sterile (germ-free) solution. It's even possible that the purchased methadone was spit into a small container, or has been measured off with re-used kits (syringe & needle). The container that is sold to you might be dirty as well. So if you're injecting black market methadone you're taking a high chance of infecting yourself with Hepatitis, developing abscesses, necroses (dead tissue), or endocarditis; an inflammation of the heartmuscle (see also our safer-use-Info on "Injecting Methadone").

If you're injecting sugar based Methadone syrup into small veins, the sugar will destroy their tiny valves. This often leads to developing abscesses or even thrombosis. If these valves are destroyed, water will gather in the affected limbs (arms,legs); also known as oedema.

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LEGAL RISKS:

Selling and buying substitution substances without medical prescription is liable to prosecution. §30a BtmG (Controlled Substances Legislation) applies to the buyer. Purchase with the purpose of own consumption might be exempt from punishment under certain circumstances. However, police will investigate and prosecute.

SAFER USE ADVICE:

- If you have to buy substitution substances on the scene, try to stick to people you know and people you trust.
- Try to prefer Polamidone, in original vials as packed by the producer.
- To measure off Methadone, use unused, sterile kits ONLY. (And pray your dealer did so as well...)
- By all means try to avoid injecting Methadone (see also our safer use info "Injecting Methadone")

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