

BOTULISM WARNING

BLACK TAR HEROIN MAY BE CONTAMINATED

- A suspected WOUND BOTULISM case has been reported in King County. Health officials believe the **case is related to injecting black tar heroin**.
- Injecting heroin that contains the bacteria that causes botulism can cause **serious infection and even death**.

UNDERSTAND YOUR RISK.



MUSCLING & SKIN-POPPING POSE THE GREATEST RISK.

But, shooting IV is risky too.



THERE IS NO WAY TO KNOW WHICH HEROIN HAS THE BACTERIA AND WHICH DOES NOT.



COOKING THE DOPE DOES NOT KILL IT.

SYMPTOMS TO WATCH:



Weakness and drooping eyelids



Blurred or double vision



Extreme dry mouth and sore throat



Trouble breathing, intense shortness of breath

These **symptoms can start several days to several weeks** after injecting contaminated drugs. You may or may not notice an abscess. If not treated quickly, botulism can cause paralysis, shut down your breathing and cause death. If it is caught early, it can be treated.

If you have any of the symptoms, **go the nearest EMERGENCY ROOM** immediately. Take this flyer so you will be seen quickly.