

Police are investigating how Prince got the drug that killed him

The Midwest Medical Examiner's Office has revealed that the 57-year-old singer died from a self-administered fentanyl overdose and a criminal investigation has been launched into who supplied Prince with the opioid, which has a high risk for addiction and dependence. Law enforcement sources have told TMZ that the "illicit" possession of the drug is the focus of the investigation and both state and federal prosecutors are involved. The website reports: "If someone illegally prescribed or filled a prescription for a patient who dies as a result of the drug, they could face third degree murder

charges and up to 25 years in prison." Prince, whose full name was Prince Rogers Nelson, was found unresponsive in an elevator at his Paisley Park home in Chanhassen, Minnesota on April 21 from a "self-administered fentanyl overdose". It was previously claimed that Prince had been addicted to the painkiller Percocet for years because of problems with his hips and that he had to be given a "save shot" almost a week before his passing after he overdosed on the highly-addictive drug, which contains acetaminophen and oxycodone Prince - who had used a cane to help him get around for many years -

had long needed a double hip replacement but reportedly turned it down on numerous occasions but he was worried it would require a blood transfusion, which would have conflicted with his beliefs as a Jehovah's Witness. The singer was rushed to hospital in Moline, Illinois on April 15 for the shot, which is administered to counteract the effects of opiates, after being taken ill on his private jet on the way back from a gig in Atlanta.



PARIS: A replica of the Statue of Liberty stands tall over the flooded River Seine yesterday.

Paris museums to be shut for days

The Seine River peaked yesterday around Paris, hitting its highest level in nearly 35 years - almost 4.5 meters above average - and authorities warned it could take up to ten days for the river to return to normal.

And it will take at least four days before tourists in the French capital once again get a chance to view art at the world-class Louvre museum, where curators were scrambling to move 250,000 artworks upstairs, away from basement storage areas at risk of flooding.

The Louvre, home to Leonardo da Vinci's "Mona Lisa," said it won't reopen until Wednesday, while the Orsay Museum, known for its impressionist art, was closed at least through the weekend. Other Paris landmarks shut down due to flooding include the national library and

the Grand Palais, Paris' striking glass-and-steel topped exhibition center.

Nearly a week of heavy rain has led to serious flooding across parts of France, Germany, Romania and Belgium. The death toll from French flooding rose to four, with 24 others injured, French Prime Minister Manuel Valls said Saturday after a government crisis center meeting. He didn't elaborate, but that brings the total death toll across Europe from two weeks of flooding to 18.

Valls said the water level of the Seine is now decreasing "slowly but steadily" in Paris and said several ministerial meetings next week will make sure quick financial help is provided to those affected. He also urged Paris visitors and residents alike to "to observe safety precau-

tions" since many have been walking along the Seine's overflowing banks to observe the rare phenomena.

Even as the waters start to recede in Paris, transportation problems remain. Several train and subway stations were shut down in the city center due to the flooding and Paris drivers still faced major problems due to flooded roads. The French energy company Enedis said over 17,000 homes were still without electricity Saturday in the Paris region and central France.

One of the Seine's tributaries had not seen water levels this high since 1910, when the Great Flood of Paris swamped the capital. France's meteorological service said Saturday that high flood alerts remained in effect in 14 regions, mostly in central and western France, including Paris. Although the rain has tapered off in some

areas, possible floods were expected over the weekend downstream along the Seine in the region of Normandy.

Boats and barges docked in Paris were being carefully watched to ensure none would cast off their moorings. Nicolas Hainsohn, a boathouse resident on the Seine, said the situation was usual but added "it's just water."

"We are used to this. We've seen it once or twice," he told The Associated Press. "It's tricky to dock, because you need to follow the water flow, you have to be careful, otherwise you can hit the river bank." — AP



PARIS: People looking at the floods stand on the Alma bridge by the Zouave statue which is used as a measuring instrument during floods yesterday.



PARIS: People walk on a bridge past the flooded banks of the river Seine near the Eiffel Tower on Friday. — AP photos