

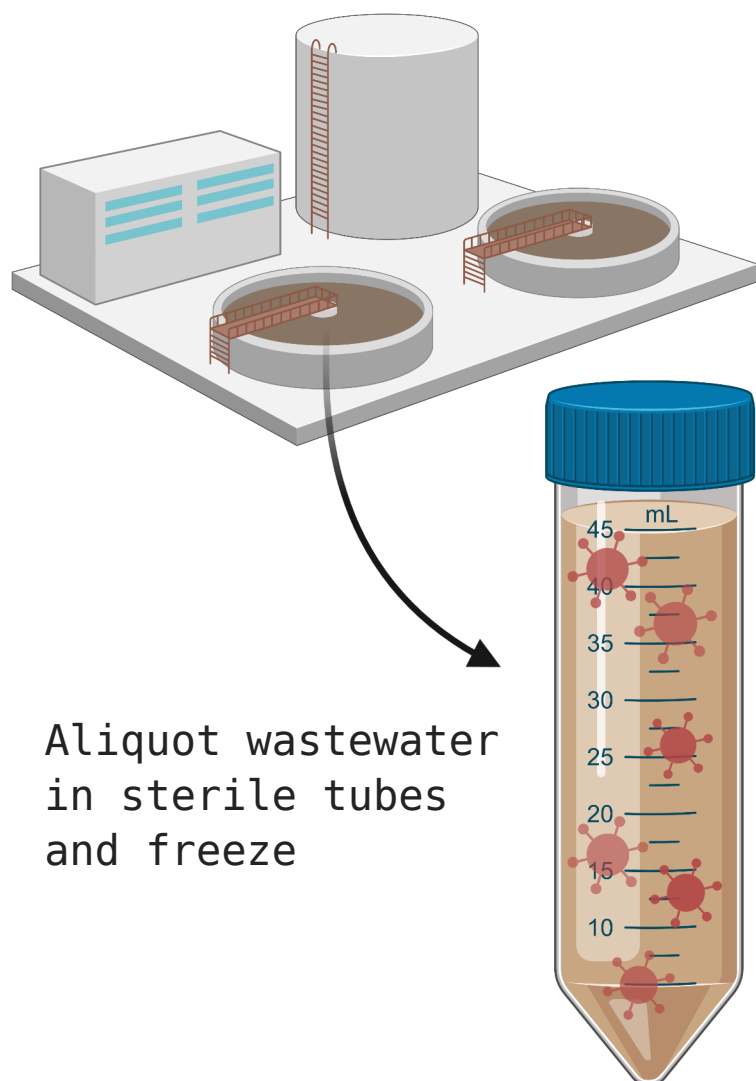
Wastewater Surveillance

Tracking SARS-CoV-2

Quantifying virions in city wastewater is a method to determine the scale of a viral outbreak in a given region. As wastewater samples can be frozen for testing at much later dates, these data also offer vital evidence in tracking the evolution of variants.

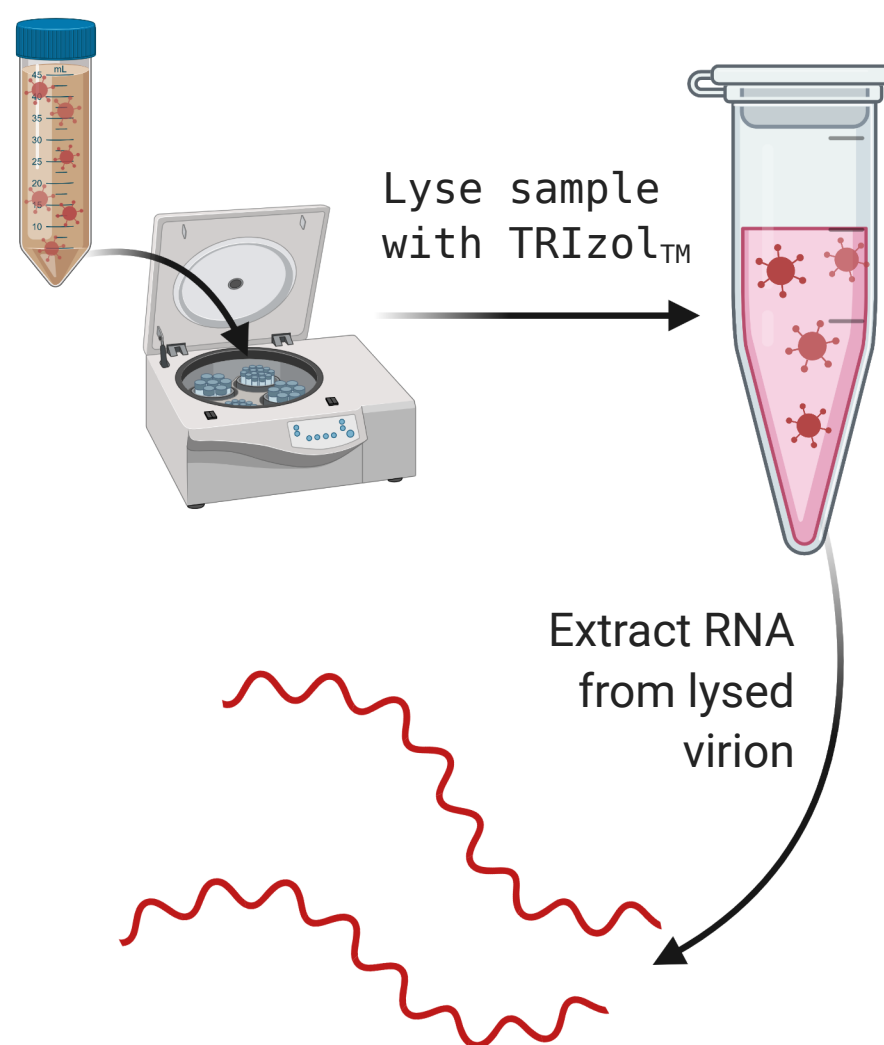
1

Researchers collect samples from wastewater treatment facilities. Archived (frozen) samples may be stored offsite. Alternatively, samples may be gathered from active sites such as event venues.



2

Samples undergo processing. Protocols may deviate notably from standard clinical sample workflows. At minimum, samples are centrifuged and some RNA is purified.



3

Finally, amplification and quantification. Viral RNA is quantified and incidence of SARS-CoV-2 infection can then be estimated.

