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Nanomaterials-based strategies for enhanced mercury trace

analysis in environmental and drinking waters

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Highlights

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For "Nanomaterials applied for enhanced mercury trace analysis in environmental and drinking waters" by Jessica Huber and Kerstin Leopold

- Nanomaterial-based strategies for mercury (Hg) monitoring in water are evaluated
- Most approaches allow Hg detection below 10 nM, some provide LODs in pMlevel
- Novel approaches either provide easy sample pre-treatment or enhanced detection
- No combinations of such methodologies are reported so far
 - A wide field for future investigations is open to design optimum in-situ Hg sensor

Abstract

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This review presents analytical strategies for mercury trace analysis in environmental and drinking water by application of nanomaterials. Thereby methods are classified into approaches (A) aiming to substitute elaborate sample pre-treatment, separation and pre-concentration procedures by simplified procedures; and (B) providing 30 enhanced detection technique in regard to fast signal read-out, miniaturized instrumentation and at the same time high sensitivity. Therefore, the review covers nanomaterials-based sample preparation as well as optical and electrochemical detection techniques. Their applicability for monitoring purpose is discussed by evaluating sensitivity and selectivity considering real water matrices as well as by 35 evaluation of simplicity and analysis duration. A selection of examples published within the last 3 years is presented in two tables. These are sorted into methods allowing for monitoring of permissible Hg level in drinking water (LOD < 10nM) and methods capable of detecting ultra traces of mercury in pristine environmental waters (LOD < 0.05 nM).

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