

Supporting Material for

Solid-liquid partitioning of Dengue, West Nile, Zika, Hepatitis A, Influenza A, and SARS-CoV-2 viruses in wastewater samples from across the United States

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Number of pages: 11

Number of Tables: 4

Number of Figures: 3

| ITEM TO CHECK | PROVIDED | COMMENT |
|---|-------------------------------|--|
| | Y/N | |
| 1. SPECIMEN | | |
| Detailed description of specimen type and numbers | Y | included in methods section |
| Sampling procedure (including time to storage) | Y | included in methods section |
| Sample aliquotation, storage conditions and duration | Y | included in methods section |
| 2. NUCLEIC ACID EXTRACTION | | |
| Description of extraction method including amount of sample processed | Y | included in methods section |
| Volume of solvent used to elute/resuspend extract | Y | included in methods section |
| Number of extraction replicates | Y | included in methods section |
| Extraction blanks included? | Y | included in methods section |
| 3. NUCLEIC ACID ASSESSMENT AND STORAGE | | |
| Method to evaluate quality of nucleic acids | N | NA |
| Method to evaluate quantity of nucleic acids (including molecular weight and calculations when using mass) | N | NA |
| Storage conditions: temperature, concentration, duration, buffer, aliquots | Y | included in methods section |
| Clear description of dilution steps used to prepare working DNA solution | Y | included in methods section |
| 4. NUCLEIC ACID MODIFICATION | Y | |
| Template modification (digestion, sonication, pre-amplification, bisulphite etc.) | N | NA |
| Details of repurification following modification if performed | Y | zymo kit; included in methods section |
| 5. REVERSE TRANSCRIPTION | | |
| cDNA priming method and concentration | N | NA |
| One or two step protocol (include reaction details for two step) | Y | included in methods section |
| Amount of RNA added per reaction | Y | included in supplementary information |
| Detailed reaction components and conditions | Y | included in supplementary information |
| Estimated copies measured with and without addition of RT* | N | NA |
| Manufacturer of reagents used with catalogue and lot numbers | Y | included in the methods section |
| Storage of cDNA: temperature, concentration, duration, buffer and aliquots | N | NA |
| 6. dPCR OLIGONUCLEOTIDES DESIGN AND TARGET INFORMATION | | |
| Sequence accession number or official gene symbol | N | NA |
| Method (software) used for design and <i>in silico</i> verification | Y | we used previously published assays; in-silico verification of assays described in methods section |
| Location of amplicon | N | NA |
| Amplicon length | Y | included in supplementary information |
| Primer and probe sequences (or amplicon context sequence)** | Y | included in supplementary information |
| Location and identity of any modifications | N | NA |
| Manufacturer of oligonucleotides | Y | included in methods section |
| 7. dPCR PROTOCOL | | |
| Manufacturer of dPCR instrument and instrument model | Y | included in methods section |
| Buffer/kit manufacturer with catalogue and lot number | Y | included in methods section |
| Primer and probe concentration | Y | included in supplementary information |
| Pre-reaction volume and composition (incl. amount of template and if restriction enzyme) | Y | included in supplementary information |
| Template treatment (initial heating or chemical denaturation) | N | NA |
| Polymerase identity and concentration, Mg ⁺⁺ and dNTP concentrations*** | N | NA |
| Complete thermocycling parameters | Y | included in supplementary information |
| 8. ASSAY VALIDATION | | |
| Details of optimisation performed | N | we used previously published/validated assays |
| Analytical specificity (vs. related sequences) and limit of blank (LOB) | N | NA |
| Analytical sensitivity/LoD and how this was evaluated | Y | we determined a theoretically lowest concentration limit; included in methods section |
| Testing for inhibitors (from biological matrix/extraction) | Y | we used BCoV as an inhibitor control; included in methods section |
| 9. DATA ANALYSIS | | |
| Description of dPCR experimental design | Y | included in methods section |
| Comprehensive details negative and positive of controls (whether applied for QC or for estimation of error) | Y | included in methods section |
| Partition classification method (thresholding) | Y | included in methods section |
| Examples of positive and negative experimental results (including fluorescence plots in | Y | included in supplementary information |
| Description of technical replication | Y | included in supplementary information |
| Repeatability (intra-experiment variation) | N | NA |
| Reproducibility (inter-experiment/user/lab etc. variation) | N | NA |
| Number of partitions measured (average and standard deviation) | Y | included in supplementary information |
| Partition volume | Y | included in supplementary information |
| Copies per partition (λ or equivalent) (average and standard deviation) | Y | included in supplementary information |
| dPCR analysis program (source, version) | Y | included in methods section |
| Description of normalisation method | N | NA |
| Statistical methods used for analysis | Y | included in methods section |
| Data transparency | raw data available on request | raw data available on request |

Figure S1: Checklist for Minimum Information for Publication of Quantitative Digital PCR Experiments (dMIQE2020)

Additional information on RT ddPCR assays

For each duplex assay, each PCR well was a 20 μL reaction with One-Step RT-ddPCR Advanced Kit for Probes Supermix, 15 mM DTT, 1X primer/probe assay mix, and 5 μL RNA template. Final concentrations of the primers and probes were 900 nM and 250 nM, respectively.

A subset of aliquots (70) was selected at random to determine the average and standard deviations of number of partitions and copies per partition.

For the SARS-CoV-2 and Influenza A duplex assay, the average (standard deviation) number of partitions (droplets) across two replicate wells was 38,835 (1,780). The volume of the partitions, as reported by the machine vendor is 0.00085 μL . The average (standard deviation) of copies per partition for the SARS-CoV-2 RNA was 5.8×10^{-3} (7.2×10^{-3}), and the average (standard deviation) of copies per partition for Influenza A RNA was 2.6×10^{-2} (3.2×10^{-2}). An example fluorescent plot from the QX200 reader is shown in Figure S2. Results from the other assays are similar.

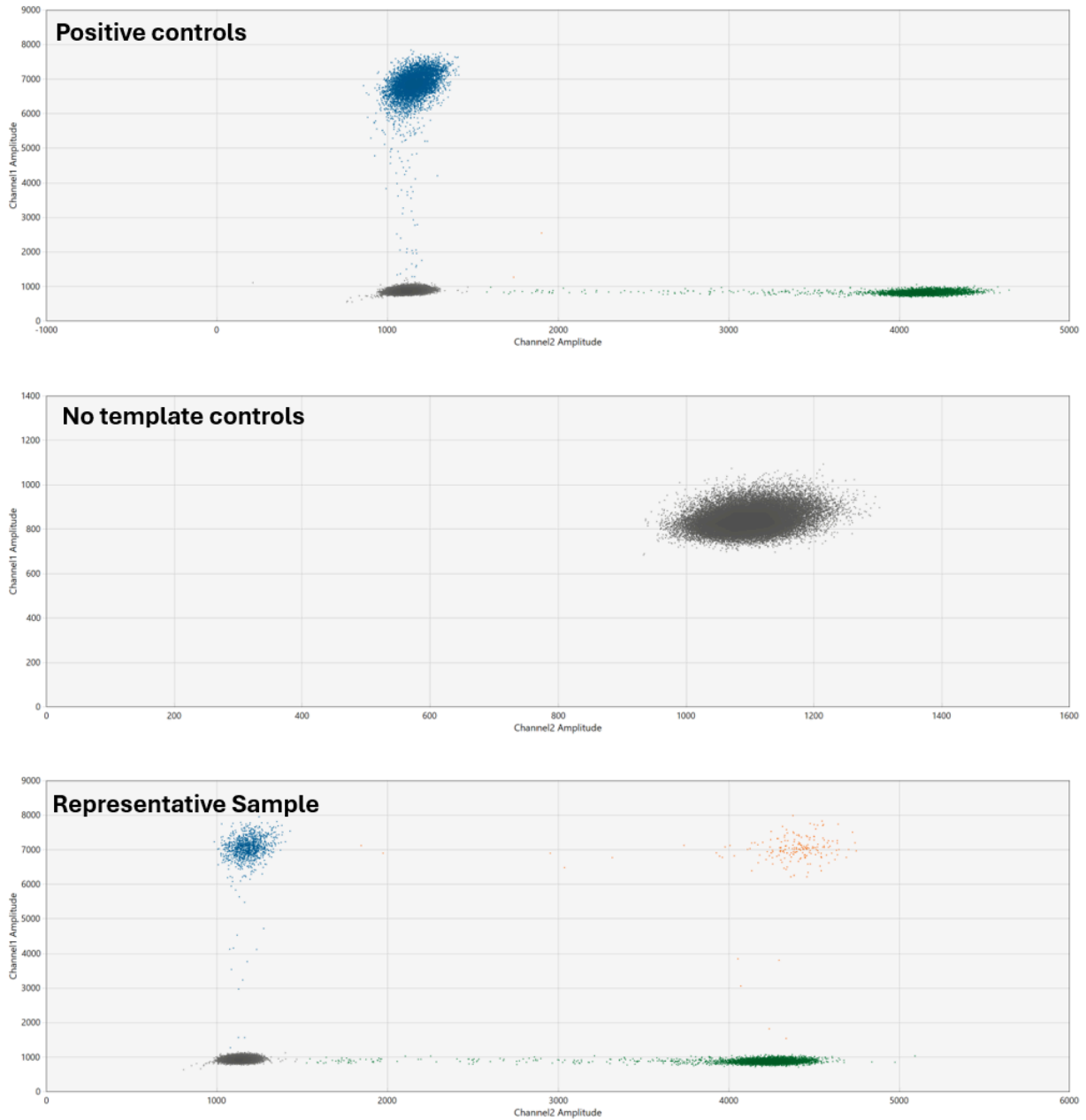


Figure S2: Examples of ddPCR experimental results for the SARS-CoV-2 and Influenza A duplex assay. Top plot represents positive controls for SARS-CoV-2 (green) and Influenza A (blue), middle plot depicts no template controls (grey), and bottom plot shows a representative sample.

Table S1: Name of the plant, population served, plant capacity (MGD), sample collection date, and description of chemicals added upstream of the sample collection point for each wastewater treatment plant.

| Plant | Name | State | Approximate number of people served | Plant capacity (MGD) | Sample collection date | Chemicals added at the plant (upstream of sample collection site) |
|-------|--|-------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|---|
| A | San José-Santa Clara Regional Wastewater Facility | CA | 250,000 | 167 | 10/3 | FeCl ₃ and NaOCl |
| B | Jackson Wastewater Treatment Plant | MI | 90,000 | 24 | 10/26, 11/30 | FeCl ₂ |
| C | City of Youngstown Wastewater Treatment Plant | OH | 174,000 | 102 | 10/27, 12/1 | No |
| D | Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission | NJ | 1,500,000 | 330 | 10/23 | No |
| E | Akron Water Reclamation Facility | OH | 365,000 | 280 | 10/27, 12/1 | No |
| F | South Monmouth Regional Sewerage Authority | NJ | 52,672 | 9 | 10/27, 12/1 | No |
| G | Lawrence Kansas River Wastewater Treatment Facility | KS | 80,000 | 65 | 10/27, 12/1 | Microsand, polymer, and ferric chloride during high flow events |
| H | Bayshore Regional Sewerage Authority | NJ | 100,000 | 16 | 10/27, 12/1 | No |
| I | City of Wilson-Hominy Creek Water Reclamation Facility | NC | 50,000 | 14 | 10/27, 12/1 | No |
| J | City of Stamford, Water Pollution Control Authority | CT | 140,000 | 24 | 10/27 | No |
| K | City of Coeur d'Alene Water Resource Recovery Facility | ID | 50,540 | 6 | 10/27, 12/1 | Aluminum sulfate |

Table S2: Concentrations of Dengue, Zika, WNV, Hepatitis A, Influenza, and SARS-CoV-2 in virus cocktails for Batch 1 and 2

| Batch | Cocktail | Viral RNA Concentrations (cp/ml) | | | | | |
|-------|------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | | Dengue | Zika | WNV | Hepatitis A | Influenza | SARS-CoV-2 |
| 1 | VC0 | 2.46x10 ⁸ | 9.19x10 ⁷ | 2.85x10 ⁸ | 4.10x10 ⁶ | 8.60x10 ⁵ | 1.56x10 ⁶ |
| | VC1 | 5.47x10 ⁷ | 2.05x10 ⁷ | 5.96x10 ⁷ | 3.00x10 ⁶ | 7.04x10 ⁵ | 1.21x10 ⁶ |
| | VC2 | 5.63x10 ⁶ | 3.77x10 ⁶ | 5.85x10 ⁶ | 1.86x10 ⁶ | 4.05x10 ⁵ | 1.40x10 ⁶ |
| | VC3 | 1.05x10 ⁶ | 4.70x10 ⁵ | 5.94x10 ⁵ | 1.19x10 ⁶ | 1.96x10 ⁵ | 1.50x10 ⁶ |
| | VC4 | 2.67x10 ⁵ | 9.37x10 ⁴ | 1.44x10 ⁵ | 5.94x10 ⁵ | 1.15x10 ⁵ | 9.70x10 ⁵ |
| | VC5 | 5.85x10 ⁴ | 1.98x10 ⁴ | 2.80x10 ⁴ | 3.15x10 ⁵ | 5.70x10 ⁴ | 3.71x10 ⁵ |
| | VC6 | 1.04x10 ⁴ | 4.10x10 ³ | 5.60x10 ³ | 1.54x10 ⁵ | 2.37x10 ⁴ | 1.27x10 ⁵ |
| 2 | VC7 | 2.22x10 ⁷ | 4.56x10 ⁶ | 2.48x10 ⁷ | 4.94x10 ⁶ | 1.11x10 ⁶ | 1.87x10 ⁶ |
| | VC8 | 2.17x10 ⁶ | 1.60x10 ⁶ | 2.14x10 ⁶ | 1.61x10 ⁶ | 4.34x10 ⁵ | 1.49x10 ⁶ |
| | VC9 | 1.79x10 ⁵ | 3.04x10 ⁵ | 1.66x10 ⁶ | 7.65x10 ⁵ | 1.94x10 ⁵ | 1.17x10 ⁶ |

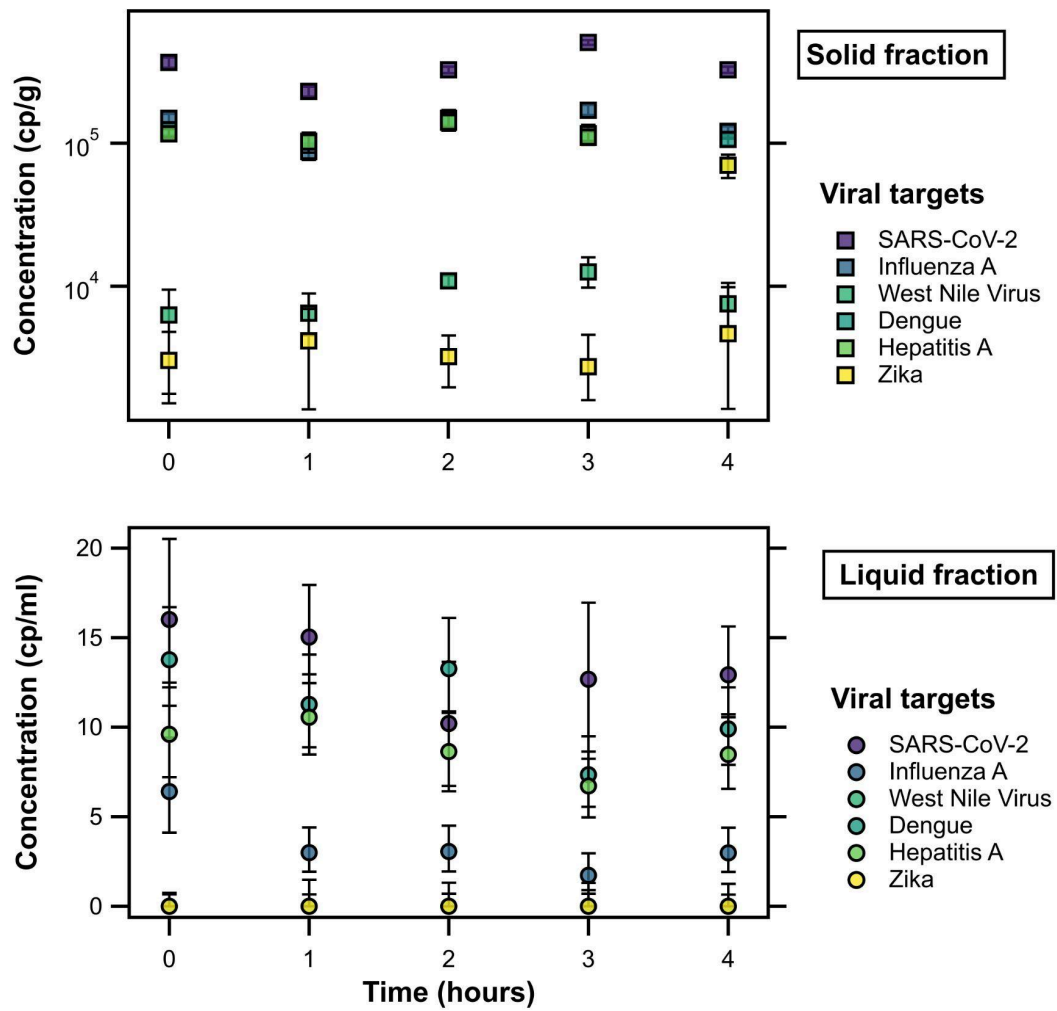


Figure S3: Kinetic experiment to determine the time needed for the spiked viruses to reach apparent equilibrium. Viral RNA concentrations measured in the liquid and solid fractions of wastewater spiked from PLANT A, measured every hour for up to 4 hours.

Table S3: Primers and probes for RT-ddPCR assays

| Duplex Assay | Target | Sequence | Reference |
|--------------|-----------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1 | Dengue Type 1 | Forward primer: 5'-CAAAGGAAGTCGYGCAATA-3' Reverse primer: 5'-CTGAGTGAATTCTCTCTGCTRAAC-3' Probe: CATGTGGYTGGGAGCRCGC (5' FAM/ZEN/3' IBFQ) | CDC ¹ |
| | West Nile virus | Forward primer: 5'-TCAGCGATCTCTCCACCAAAG-3' Reverse primer: 5'-GGGTCAGCACGTTTGTTCATTG-3' Probe: TGCCCGACCATGGGAGAAGCT (5' HEX/ZEN/3' IBFQ) | Lanciotti et al. (2000) ² |
| 2 | Zika | Forward primer: 5'-GGCRTRGCCATCAGTCCG-3' Reverse: 5'-ATGGAGCATCCGKGAGACT-3' Probe: TGGCAGCTYCTTTATTTCCACARAAG (5' FAM/ZEN/3' IBFQ) | Hui et al. (2018) ³ |
| | Hepatitis A | Forward primer: 5'-GGTAGGCTACGGGTGAAAC-3' Reverse primer: 5'-AACAACTACCAATATCCGC-3' Probe: CTTAGGCTAATACTTCTATGAAGAGATGC (5' HEX/ZEN/3' IBFQ) | Jothikumar et al. (2005) ⁴ |
| 3 | Influenza A | Forward primer: 5'-CAAGACCAATCYTGTCACCTCTGAC-3' Reverse primer: 5'-GCATTYTGACAAVCGTCTACG-3' Probe: TGCAGTCTCGCTCACTGGGCACG (5' FAM/ZEN/3' IBFQ) | CDC ⁵ |
| | SARS-CoV-2 | Forward primer: 5'-CATTACGTTTGGTGGACCCT-3' Reverse primer: 5'-CCTTGCCATGTTGAGTGAGA-3' Probe: CGCGATCAAAACAACGTCGG (5' HEX/ZEN/3' IBFQ) | Wolfe et al. (2021) ⁶ |
| 4 | BCoV | Forward primer: 5'-CTGGAAGTTGGTGGAGTT-3' Reverse primer: 5'-ATTATCGGCCTAACATACATC-3' Probe: CCTTCATATCTATACACATCAAGTTGTT (5' FAM /ZEN/3' IBFQ) | Decaro et al. (2008) ⁷ |

All probes contained fluorescent molecules and quenchers (5' FAM and or HEX/ZEN/3' IBFQ); FAM, 6-fluorescein amidite; HEX, hexachloro-fluorescein; ZEN, a proprietary internal quencher from Integrated DNA Technologies (Coralville, IA, USA); and IBFQ, Iowa Black FQ.

For batch 1, the following duplex assays were prepared: 1) Dengue (FAM) + West Nile Virus (HEX), 2) Zika (FAM) + Hepatitis A (HEX), and 3) Influenza A (FAM) + SARS-CoV-2 (HEX).

For batch 2, we prepared the same duplex assays for the first experiment. For the second experiment, we prepared a duplex assay for Zika (FAM) and West Nile Virus (HEX)

Table S4: Thermal cycling conditions for SARS-CoV-2, RSV, RV, MS2, and BCoV

| Cycling Step | Temperature °C | Time | Number of Cycles |
|-----------------------|----------------|----------|------------------|
| Reverse transcription | 50 | 60 min | 1 |
| Enzyme activation | 95 | 10 min | 1 |
| Denaturation | 95 | 30 sec | 40 |
| Annealing/Extension | 59 | 1 min* | 40 |
| Enzyme deactivation | 98 | 10 min | 1 |
| Hold | 4 | Infinite | 1 |

*BCoV

Dimensional analysis⁸ for liquid and solid fractions of spiked wastewater samples

$$\text{Concentration in solids (cp/g)} = \frac{x \text{ copies}}{\mu\text{l rxn}} \times \frac{B \mu\text{l rxn}}{A \mu\text{l template}} \times \frac{C \mu\text{l total eluent from extraction kit}}{Z \text{ g wet mass solids added to extraction kit}} \times \frac{1}{\% \text{ of solids}}$$

$$\text{Concentration in liquid (cp/ml)} = \frac{x \text{ copies}}{\mu\text{l rxn}} \times \frac{B \mu\text{l rxn}}{A \mu\text{l template}} \times \frac{C \mu\text{l total eluent from extraction kit}}{D \text{ ml in liquid}}$$

Table S5: Partition coefficients (K_F) of Dengue, Hepatitis A, Influenza A, SARS-CoV-2, West Nile Virus, and Zika spiked into wastewater samples.

| Wastewater Treatment Plant | Dengue | Hepatitis A | Influenza A | SARS-CoV-2 | West Nile Virus | Zika |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------------|-------------|
| A* | 1,900 | 1,060 | 7,560 | 4,820 | 3,470 | 750 |
| B* | 11,600 | 12,700 | 5,800 | 52,900 | 22,900 | 14,400 |
| C | 7,800 | 102,900 | - | - | 1,911,700 | 2,300 |
| D | 15,700 | 102,200 | 15,800 | 155,400 | - | - |
| E | 1,800 | 12,700 | 15,600 | 58,300 | 18,800 | 400 |
| F | 7,000 | 2,900 | 14,700 | 1,800 | 120,400 | 9,700 |
| G | 2,200 | 12,700 | - | - | 1,374,700 | 6,200 |
| H | 4,600 | 4,000 | 9,900 | 7,000 | 9,300 | 18,700 |
| I | 14,600 | 57,000 | 4,600 | 35,600 | 3,912,000 | 15,100 |
| J | 1,800 | 10,000 | 40,400 | 7,600 | - | - |
| K* | 5,900 | 27,600 | 5,300 | 25,300 | 23,600 | 2,100 |

Notes:

* Plants add chemicals upstream of sample collection point

- Partition coefficient could not be estimated

Table S6: Intensity of adsorption (n) of Dengue, Hepatitis A, Influenza A, SARS-CoV-2, West Nile Virus, and Zika spiked into wastewater samples.

| Wastewater Treatment Plant | Dengue | Hepatitis A | Influenza A | SARS-CoV-2 | West Nile Virus | Zika |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------------|-------------|
| A* | 1.0 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 1.1 | 1.1 |
| B* | 0.6 | 1.1 | 1.6 | 1.0 | 2.0 | 1.9 |
| C | 1.8 | 0.9 | - | - | 1.3 | 2.8 |
| D | 0.8 | 0.7 | 1.0 | 0.6 | - | - |
| E | 1.6 | 1.4 | 1.9 | 1.0 | 1.5 | 2.6 |
| F | 0.7 | 0.9 | 0.7 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 1.2 |
| G | 3.8 | 3.9 | - | - | 1.0 | 1.6 |
| H | 1.1 | 1.0 | 1.8 | 1.2 | 1.3 | 0.8 |
| I | 0.9 | 0.7 | 1.9 | 0.6 | 1.0 | 1.7 |
| J | 1.5 | 1.1 | 0.8 | 1.4 | - | - |
| K* | 1.1 | 0.8 | 1.5 | 0.9 | 1.4 | 2.0 |

Notes:

* Plants add chemicals upstream of sample collection point

- Intensity of adsorption could not be estimated

References:

- (1) Santiago, G. A.; Vergne, E.; Quiles, Y.; Cosme, J.; Vazquez, J.; Medina, J. F.; Medina, F.; Colón, C.; Margolis, H.; Muñoz-Jordán, J. L. Analytical and Clinical Performance of the CDC Real Time RT-PCR Assay for Detection and Typing of Dengue Virus. *PLoS Negl Trop Dis* **2013**, *7* (7), e2311. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pntd.0002311>.
- (2) Lanciotti, R. S.; Kerst, A. J.; Nasci, R. S.; Godsey, M. S.; Mitchell, C. J.; Savage, H. M.; Komar, N.; Panella, N. A.; Allen, B. C.; Volpe, K. E.; Davis, B. S.; Roehrig, J. T. Rapid Detection of West Nile Virus from Human Clinical Specimens, Field-Collected Mosquitoes, and Avian Samples by a TaqMan Reverse Transcriptase-PCR Assay. *J Clin Microbiol* **2000**, *38* (11), 4066–4071. <https://doi.org/10.1128/JCM.38.11.4066-4071.2000>.
- (3) Hui, Y.; Wu, Z.; Qin, Z.; Zhu, L.; Liang, J.; Li, X.; Fu, H.; Feng, S.; Yu, J.; He, X.; Lu, W.; Xiao, W.; Wu, Q.; Zhang, B.; Zhao, W. Micro-Droplet Digital Polymerase Chain Reaction and Real-Time Quantitative Polymerase Chain Reaction Technologies Provide Highly Sensitive and Accurate Detection of Zika Virus. *Virology* **2018**, *33* (3), 270–277. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12250-018-0037-y>.
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- (8) Graham, K. E.; Loeb, S. K.; Wolfe, M. K.; Catoe, D.; Sinnott-Armstrong, N.; Kim, S.; Yamahara, K. M.; Sassoubre, L. M.; Mendoza Grijalva, L. M.; Roldan-Hernandez, L.; Langenfeld, K.; Wigginton, K. R.; Boehm, A. B. SARS-CoV-2 RNA in Wastewater Settled Solids Is Associated with COVID-19 Cases in a Large Urban Sewershed. *Environ. Sci. Technol.* **2021**, *55* (1), 488–498. <https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.est.0c06191>.