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# Wastewater-Based Epidemiology (WBE) Research

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# **Message from the Guest Editors**

Wastewater-based epidemiology (WBE), through analysing relevant biomarkers in wastewater, can provide near-real-time information on the level of consumption or exposure of the population living in the target catchment boundaries to a range of chemicals and pathogens. The approach has been developed and applied for more than a decade, starting with the monitoring of illicit drug use around the world. WBE has been adopted by authorities as evidence or a tool for policy makers to formulate drug control strategies.

In recent years, particularly since 2020, WBE has been advancing to expand both in risk assessments of consumption, use, exposure, or release of chemicals and early warning of infectious disease spread and antibiotic resistance to the community level. There have been thousands of WBE studies on COVID-19 monitoring published in the last 2 years.

[...]

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# **Message from the Editor-in-Chief**

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