



Recent developments of (bio)-sensors for detection of main microbiological and non-biological pollutants in plastic bottled water samples: A critical review

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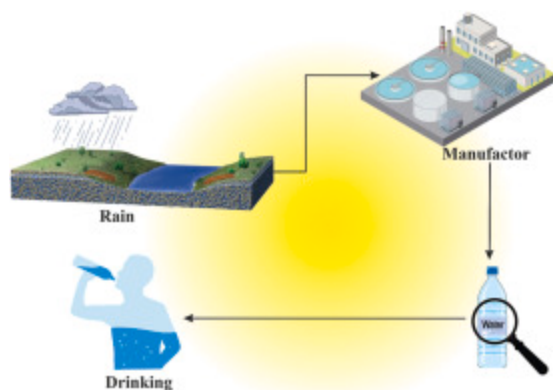
Highlights

- Recent developments of (bio)-sensors for the determination of contaminants in bottled drinking water.
- Detection of microbiological and non-biological contamination of bottled drinking water.
- The role of nanomaterials, bioreceptors and techniques in the development of (bio)-sensors.

Abstract

The importance of water in all biological processes is undeniable. Ensuring access to clean and safe drinking water is crucial for maintaining sustainable water resources. To elaborate, the consumption of water of inadequate quality can have a repercussion on human health. Furthermore, according to the instability of tap water quality, the consumption rate of bottled water is increasing every day at the global level. Although most people believe bottled water is safe, it can also be contaminated by microbiological or chemical pollution, which can increase the risk of disease. Over the last decades, several conventional analytical tools applied to analyze the contamination of bottled water. On the other hand, some limitations restrict their application in this field. Therefore, biosensors, as emerging analytical method, attract tremendous attention for detection both microbial and chemical contamination of bottled water. Biosensors enjoy several facilities including selectivity, affordability, and sensitivity. In this review, the developed biosensors for analyzing contamination of bottled water were highlighted, as along with working strategies, pros and cons of studies. Challenges and prospects were also examined.

Graphical abstract



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Introduction

Nowadays, it is a well-known fact that food packaging has attracted considerable attention and bottled water is not an exception to this fact [1]. Up to now, water resources have been directly and indirectly associated with human health [2]. Indeed, with the continuous growth of human populations and economies, the global demand for freshwater and safe water has been rapidly increased [3,4]. In addition, lifestyle and climate change further exacerbate the strain on our vital water resources, resulting in widespread water stress

across many countries. Recently, the revolution in the food industrial has played a critical role in producing bottled water which is more accessible and safer than other water resources [5]. For example, in 2017, the value of the bottled water market was estimated at approximately \$US198.50 billion which demonstrates the importance of this market [6,7]. This market contains four main categories including carbonated water, still water, flavored water, and functional water [8,9]. Over the past few decades, the worldwide bottled water industry has experienced impressive and consistent annual expansion [10]. As a substitute for conventional soft drinks, bottled water has become a popular choice for consumers seeking health and well-being [11]. On the other hand, in some cases, these types of waters pose threats to both the human food supply and biodiversity in aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems. Particularly, safe drinking water standards are strictly enforced in countries worldwide to minimize the risk of acute and chronic health hazards for consumers [12,13].

Section snippets

Microbiological and non-biological pollutants in bottled drinking water

A variety of microbial and chemical contaminations can be considered threatening agents of bottled water [14]. The presence of chemicals and substances in bottled drinking water that originate from non-living sources is known as non-biological contamination which has the potential to pose a risk to human health if their concentrations exceed established regulatory limits [15,16]. There are numerous non-biological contaminations presented in drinking bottled water and some examples are...

(Bio)-sensors evolution for bottled drinking water analysis

Due to the importance of presenting high potential technologies for constantly monitoring and recognizing microbiological and non-biological contaminations of drinking bottled water, over the past few decades, numerous techniques have been conducted to detect pollutant detection [36]. However, most of them are not economical, and alongside that, they are time-consuming [37]. Plate counting, for instance, is standard for counting the coliforms approach in the samples of water which requires...

Microbiological pollutants detection

According to the high cost and complexity analysis method of isolated pathogen microorganisms from bottled water, additionally, inconstant presence of them in water can

be considered two important matters for determination of some microbiological indicator species [47]. In other words, the presence of these species reveals implicitly the risk of contamination with pathogenic microorganisms and fecal pollution. Generally, the following indicator parameters are exploited to measure the degree of...

Non-biological pollutants detection

Non-biological contaminations contain physical and chemical hazards that may be presented naturally or through human activities such as mining, industry, wastewater, and agriculture activities. Although trace amounts of these contaminations are typical, according to the guideline of international health organizations, they can pose a threat to our lives depending on the consumption rates, type of contaminant, and concentration [85]. Recently, the exploitation of NMs and bioreceptors in the...

Conclusion and future perspective

Contamination by microbiological and non-biological pollutants is a global concern affecting bottled drinking water quality. Microbiological and chemical analysis of bottled drinking water samples is time-consuming and requires qualified individuals. Over the last decades, the introduction of novel NMs and sensing approaches that operate according to affordable and simple instruments can provide more efficient water analysis devices. Therefore, in the present work, a literature review of...

CRedit authorship contribution statement

Sofiene Mansouri: Writing – review & editing, Writing – original draft, Visualization, Supervision, Project administration, Funding acquisition, Conceptualization....

Declaration of competing interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper....

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