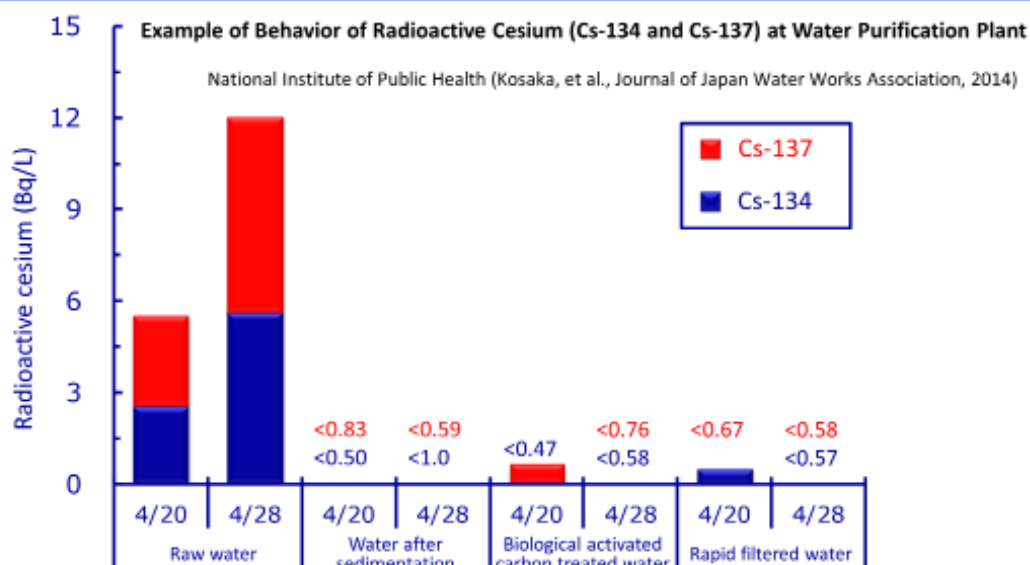


Control of Radioactive Cesium

Most of the radioactive cesium that reaches sources of tap water is adsorbed into suspensoids such as soil and flows out. Therefore, radioactive cesium can be controlled through strict turbidity management.



Zeolite, ion exchangers, nanofiltration membranes and reverse osmosis membranes are professionally used for removing radioactive materials, but these cannot be used for ordinary water purification due to high cost, required facilities and inefficiency (in particular, the use of nanofiltration membranes and reverse osmosis membranes is power consuming).

Bq/L: becquerels per liter

Prepared based on the reference material for the 12th Health Sciences Council's Committee on Living Environment and Water Supply in March 2012

As of April 2011, radioactive cesium concentrations in raw water, water after sedimentation, biological activated carbon treated water, and rapid filtered water were measured at water purification plants in Fukushima Prefecture. As a result, it was confirmed that low-concentrated radioactive cesium detected in raw water had decreased through adsorption into soil in the process of sedimentation.

A survey of water purification processes revealed that radioactive cesium had been almost entirely removed together with suspensoids through coagulating sedimentation, sand filtration and the use of powdered activated carbon. At present, radioactive cesium is not detected in almost all purified water. These results showed that radioactive cesium can be controlled through strict turbidity management.

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