What is claimed is:

1. A method of improving the filtration capacity of a virus filter during purification of a protein of interest, comprising subjecting a sample comprising said protein of interest to a prefiltration step prior to passing through said virus filter, said prefiltration step comprising contacting said sample with a porous solid support selected from the group consisting of chromatographic resin, a membrane, a porous bead, a porous monolith, a winged fiber, a woven fabric and a non-woven fabric, said porous solid support comprising a cross-linked coating comprising a co-polymer of benzyl acrylamide, acrylamide and N,N'-methylenebisacrylamide.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said sample is contacted with said porous solid support at pH higher than about 6 and a conductivity higher than about 5 mS/cm.