Commentary on: Hardin GC. Postmortem blood and vitreous humor ethanol concentrations in a victim of a fatal motor vehicle crash. J Forensic Sci 2002;47(2):402–403.

Sir:

The case report by Hardin, showing a discrepancy between the cavity blood ethanol and the vitreous ethanol in a traffic fatality (Hardin GG. Postmortem blood and vitreous humor ethanol concentrations in a victim of a fatal motor vehicle crash. J Forensic Sci 2002 Mar;47(2):402–3) is just another example of the fact that one should not use cavity blood for forensic toxicology (1).

References

1. Freimuth HC. Forensic aspects of alcohol. In: Spitz WU, editor. Spitz and Fisher's medicolegal investigation of death, Third Edition. Springfield: Charles C. Thomas, 1993, 770.

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Author's Response

Sir:

I would like to thank Dr. Ribe for his interest in my case report (1). He has brought up a valuable point, of which apparently some coroners need to be reminded from time to time.

Reference

 Hardin GG. Postmortem blood and vitreous humor ethanol concentrations in a victim of a fatal motor vehicle crash. J Forensic Sci 2002 Mar; 47(2):402-3.

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