Reply to Maskell et al

We thank the authors for their additional insight regarding the possible source of iso-a-acids (IAA) from alcohol-free beer. The determination of IAA in blood and urine was primarily directed as an alternative approach to that of the traditional alcohol congener analysis (1–3). Congeners sourced from the ingredients used in the production of alcoholic beverages provide a complementary method to existing ones when the source of alcohol is questioned. In these cases ethanol will be invariably detected in one of these fluids with uncertainty over the type and volumes of alcoholic beverage consumed. However, as in any medico-legal matter, a full consideration of the alternative possibilities and the acknowledgment of the method limitations must be considered by the courts.

References

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