Table 3 Mean scores for each item of attitude to hepatitis B virus (HBV) among Tehran dentists (*n* = 300), and correlations with knowledge items and behaviour

#	Attitude items	Max. score (= 3)	Mean (SD) score	Significant correlations[a] Knowledge items	Behaviour
A1	HBV is extremely rare, is not potentially dangerous, and the fear of HBV is due to adverse propaganda	Strongly disagree	2.34 (0.88)	K5	–
A2	I would willingly examine and treat HBV patients/carriers	Strongly agree	1.32 (0.87)	–	–
A3	I would treat HBV patients/carriers only if full protection were available	Strongly disagree	1.06 (0.74)	K2, K7, K14	–
A4	Since my duty is to treat all dental patients, I would treat HBV-positive patients/carriers as well	Strongly agree	1.21 (0.79)	K12	–
A5	Both healthy and HBV-positive dental patients are equally respected and both deserve complete dental care/treatment	Strongly disagree	1.18 (0.93)	K2, K13	–
A6	Society should not reject or dismiss HBV-positive patients/carriers	Strongly agree	0.97 (0.89)	K18	–
A7	Dentists who avoid treating HBV-positive patients/carriers should be penalized	Strongly agree	1.68 (0.83)	K1, K2, K14	–
A8	I hesitate to treat HBV-positive patients/carriers out of concern of becoming infected	Strongly disagree	1.88 (0.86)	K10, K11	B
A9	If clinic policies oblige me to treat HBV-positive patients/carriers, I would leave practice	Strongly disagree	1.85 (0.90)	K11	–
A10	Since hepatitis B is not certainly curable, I may not treat HBV-positive patients/carriers	Strongly disagree	1.86 (0.93)	–	–
A11	HBV-positive patients/carriers should be charged more than normal patients are	Strongly disagree	1.75 (0.88)	–	–
A12	HBV-positive patients/carriers should receive dental care at specific clinics	Strongly disagree	1.41 (0.96)	K10, K11, K16	–
A13	Asymptomatic HBV-positive carriers who do not state their condition should be penalized	Strongly disagree	1.59 (0.93)	K10, K11, K12, K16	–

*a*Spearman correlations, *P* ≤ 0.05; – = no significant correlations.
SD = standard deviation; K = knowledge domain item number; B = behaviour domain (1 item).