

Table 5 Population description of hepatitis C and B virus negative health-care workers (HCWs) in the prevalence study who were selected for the cohort study (*n* = 402) compared with those not selected (*n* = 1201)

Variable	Unselected HCWs ^a		Selected HCWs ^a		<i>P</i> -value ^b
	No.	%	No.	%	
Age (years)					
< 25	329	26.9	66	16.4	0.073
25–29	255	20.9	55	13.7	0.223
30–34	180	14.8	72	17.9	0.541
35–39	142	11.6	73	18.2	0.185
40–44	112	9.2	59	14.7	0.277
45–49	101	8.3	40	9.9	0.762
50–54	60	4.9	18	4.5	0.945
≥ 55	41	3.4	13	3.2	0.972
Sex					
Female	889	72.9	319	79.4	0.021
Male	331	27.1	83	20.7	< 0.01
Marital status					
Single	457	37.5	101	25.1	< 0.01
Married	710	58.2	282	70.2	< 0.01
Widow	30	2.5	14	3.5	0.769
Divorced	22	1.8	5	1.2	0.779
Occupation					
Doctor ^c	209	18.0	20	4.9	< 0.01
Nurse ^c	576	49.7	256	63.7	< 0.01
Manual worker	197	16.9	87	21.6	0.116
Laboratory technician	55	4.7	22	5.5	0.800
Other	104	8.9	8	1.9	< 0.01
Ward					
Paediatrics	191	16.4	43	10.7	< 0.01
Surgery	281	24.1	131	32.6	< 0.01
Obstetrics	90	7.7	106	26.4	< 0.01
Internal medicine	225	19.3	55	13.7	0.013
Other medical ^d	53	4.6	55	13.7	0.056
ICU & Emergency	150	12.9	–	–	–
Non-medical	175	15.0	–	–	–

^aBoth groups tested negative for hepatitis C and B virus at baseline; ^bTwo-sample test of proportion.

^cIncludes physicians-in-training, nurses-in-training, resident and senior doctors and nurses; ^dIncludes Cardiology, Pulmonary disease, Geriatrics, Tropical medicine and Nephrology.

ICU = Intensive care unit.