

Table 3 Practice of universal precautions among health care workers (HCWs) and medical students in Mazandaran Province

Item	% answering correctly		
	HCWs hospital A (n = 283)	HCWs hospital B (n = 173)	Students (n = 84)
I assume that blood and all body fluids of patients are infectious (T)	98.7	98.6	100.0
I wear mask, gown and eye wear if procedures and patient care activities are likely to cause splashing of blood and deep body fluids (T)	96.3	99.3	100.0
I dispose of used needles into a sharp box after injection (T)	94.9	99.3	100.0
I wear gloves as the first step in cleaning surfaces contaminated with blood or other bloody body fluids (T)	90.6	95.2	89.0
Washing with soap and water for 5 minutes is my first step after contact with infective material (T)	89.9	89.2	74.5
I apply universal precautions in situations that might lead to contact with sweat (F)	19.2	60.3	33.9
If I have a wound, I wear gloves before caring for patients (T)	16.1	50.4	25.2
I apply universal precautions in situations that might lead to contact with vaginal discharge (T)	97.5	95.6	98.1

n = total number of respondents.

T = true, *F* = false (researchers' views).