

Table 2 Response rates for males and females on knowledge statements about tuberculosis (TB)

Variable	% correct response		P-value ^a	OR	(95% CI)
	Males (n = 117)	Females (n = 152)			
<i>Knowledge factors</i>					
An AIDS patient could be infected with the agent causing TB even if Mantoux test is negative	33	35	0.72	0.91	(0.80–10.71)
Two-weeks treatment with antibiotics ensures cure of TB	97	93	0.09	2.92	(0.45–1.20)
<i>Mycobacterium</i> could be dormant for many years and get reactivated	57	64	0.22	0.73	(0.80–2.09)
Protection against TB can be established by chemoprophylaxis	56	50	0.30	1.29	(0.57–1.61)
There are > 30 million deaths/year because of TB infection worldwide	69	70	0.86	0.95	(0.35–1.16)
All immigrants to Oman should be screened for <i>Mycobacterium</i>	75	83	0.13	0.63	(0.92–3.61)
Incidence of TB in Oman is high	88	80	0.08	1.82	(0.22–4.55)
Oman is a country which is free of TB	97	97	1.00	1.00	(1.01–6.00)
BCG vaccine ensures 100% protection against TB	94	86	0.04	2.46	(0.96–4.28)
Close contact with a patient having TB is harmless	91	82	0.06	2.03	(0.33–1.03)
Simple precautions like wearing mask, washing hands and good ventilation are helpful while taking care of a TB patient	72	82	0.06	0.58	(0.53–1.41)
I feel uncomfortable while talking to a patient with TB	45	48	0.56	0.87	(0.58–1.53)
A patient with TB must not share kitchen tools (plates, spoons, glasses, etc.) with others	41	43	0.81	0.94	(0.47–1.28)
Keeping a patient with TB at home carries the risk of infecting others	60	66	0.32	0.78	(1.28–3.52)
<i>Risk factors</i>					
TB is caused by a virus	62	66	0.50	0.84	(0.07–0.45)
Poor living conditions, crowdedness and refugee camps are good environments for transmission of TB	81	96	0.00	0.17	(0.45–1.17)
HIV epidemic is the main reason behind the new outbreaks of TB worldwide	46	54	0.19	0.73	(0.51–1.32)
You can get TB by drinking raw milk from an infected animal	45	50	0.42	0.82	(0.32–0.97)
The commonest mode of transmission of TB is through inhalation of <i>M. tuberculosis</i> in aerosols and dust	70	81	0.04	0.55	(0.82–2.27)

Table 2 Response rates for males and females on knowledge statements about tuberculosis (TB) (concluded)

Variable	% correct response			OR	(95% CI)
	Males (n = 117)	Females (n = 152)	P-value ^a		
Diagnosis factors					
A 1-week dry cough is suggestive of TB	69	63	0.23	1.36	(0.80–2.09)
Every patient with TB coughs out bloody sputum	56	50	0.30	1.29	(0.49–1.54)
A person could be infected with TB but show no clinical symptoms throughout life	22	25	0.63	0.87	(0.68–2.79)
Disseminated TB does not involve meninges and bones	88	85	0.38	1.37	(0.74–2.65)
TB is only confined to the respiratory tract	85	80	0.30	1.40	(0.61–1.62)
TB is diagnosed using blood smears	59	60	0.97	0.99	(0.30–0.81)
Night fever and sweating are symptoms of patients with TB	47	64	0.00	0.49	(0.56–2.71)
A positive Mantoux test means a definite TB infection	90	88	0.61	1.23	(1.00–2.77)
A tuberculin test is essential to diagnose suspected cases of TB	69	57	0.06	1.67	(0.55–1.52)

OR = odds ratio, the odds of a male getting the correct answer versus a female.

^aTwo-sided P-value for testing equality of proportions.