

Table 1 Descriptive characteristics of practitioners in private medical clinics in Landhi town, Karachi (n = 317)

Variable	Value	
Demographic variables		
Age in years [mean (SD)]	37.6 (11.1)	
Sex [no., %]		
Male	277	87.4
Female	40	12.6
Years of work experience [mean (SD)]	11.9 (9.0)	
Ethnicity [no., %]		
Pashtu	110	34.7
Panjabi & others	130	41.0
Urdu speaking	77	24.3
Years of schooling		
10	40	12.6
12	160	50.5
14	82	25.9
16	35	11.0
Professional qualifications [no., %]		
MBBS	25	7.9
Registered nurse	39	12.3
Dispenser diploma or others	225	71.0
No professional qualifications	28	8.8
Hepatitis B complete vaccination [no., %]	67	21.1
Practice variables		
No. of patients per day [median (range)]	25 (10–40)	
No. of injections administered per day [mean (SD)]	65 (5.6)	
No. of injections administered per patient [median (range)]	2 (1–3)	
At least 1 sharps injury sustained in last 12 months [no., %]	85	26.7
Use of multi-dose vials for injections [no., %]		
Yes	220	69.4
No	97	30.6
Use of disposable syringe for each injection		
Yes	80	25.2
No	237	74.8
Presence of separate container for sharps disposal [no., %]		
Yes	3	0.9
No	314	99.1
Disposal of sharps [no., %]		
Community garbage bin	250	78.9
Sewerage line	67	21.1
Needle recapping [no., %]		
Yes	277	87.4
No	40	12.6