

Table 1 Relationship between household characteristics and the rate of detectable levels of house-dust mite allergen Der p 1 in dust samples

Household characteristic	No. of samples	Der P 1 allergen detected		P-value
		No.	%	
House type				
Arabic	60	21	35.0	< 0.001
Apartment	379	50	13.2	
House age (years)				
< 10	52	15	28.8	0.006
10-20	114	20	17.5	
> 20	277	36	13.0	
Mattress type				
Wool/cotton	177	32	18.1	0.3
Rubber	264	38	14.4	
Mattress age (years)				
< 1	74	16	21.6	0.05
1-3	130	23	17.7	
3-5	42	8	19.0	
> 5	197	24	12.2	
Pillow type				
Wool/cotton	307	51	16.6	0.85
Synthetic fibre	125	19	15.2	
Bedroom floor				
With rug	323	61	18.9	0.007
Without rug	120	10	8.3	
Visible mould				
Yes	166	37	22.3	0.005
No	277	34	12.3	
Air conditioning				
Yes	363	61	16.8	0.34
No	80	10	12.5	
Heating				
Stove	277	55	19.9	0.01
Radiator	109	8	7.3	
Electricity	56	8	14.3	
Household size (no. of occupants)				
≤ 6	378	59	15.6	0.5
> 6	65	12	18.5	

P < 0.05 considered significant.