

Table 2 Respondents' knowledge about HIV/AIDS (n = 1760)

Knowledge item	Correct		Incorrect		Don't know	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
General knowledge						
A virus causes AIDS	1436	81.6	166	9.4	158	9.0
AIDS is an infectious disease	1006	57.2	612	34.8	142	8.1
AIDS is a hereditary disease	1218	69.2	362	20.6	180	10.2
AIDS is mostly seen in developing or undeveloped countries, unable to afford to care for infected people	1132	64.3	230	13.1	398	22.6
AIDS is not a serious disease. It is a simple disease like the common cold	1422	80.8	226	12.8	112	6.4
The appearance of HIV carriers does not differ from that of the normal population	1034	58.8	546	31.0	180	10.2
Resistance to other diseases in an individual with AIDS is rather low	1336	75.9	232	13.2	192	10.9
Diagnosis						
A person infected with HIV is usually diagnosed with symptoms of the disease	1040	59.1	504	28.6	216	12.3
An ELISA test is used to check for the HIV virus in the blood	848	48.2	184	10.5	728	41.4
Urine, X-ray, total blood count and biochemistry analyses are used to check for the HIV virus in the blood	210	11.9	1002	56.9	548	31.1
Risk of transmission						
Sharing public toilets and swimming pools with an infected person	946	53.8	542	30.8	272	15.5
Using an infected person's belongings such as clothes, comb, underwear and towel	936	53.2	632	35.9	192	10.9
Sharing a razor blade with an infected person	1510	85.8	114	6.5	136	7.7
Sharing an injection needle or surgical instrument previously used by an infected person	1500	85.2	140	8.0	120	6.8
Sharing the food utensils of an infected person	872	49.5	620	35.2	268	15.2
Touching an infected person, such as hugging, holding and shaking hands	1350	76.7	264	15.0	146	8.3
From a mosquito bite	586	33.3	866	49.2	308	17.5
Donating blood, organs or tissue of an infected person to another person	1432	81.4	172	9.8	156	8.9
From an infected pregnant woman to her unborn baby	1410	80.1	168	9.5	182	10.3
From an infected person to his/her partner during sexual intercourse	1512	85.9	130	7.4	118	6.7
From to an infected person who coughs or spits	930	52.8	570	32.4	260	14.8
From the urine, tears, mucus or nasal fluid of an infected person	748	42.5	674	38.3	338	19.2
From the breast milk of an infected person	1154	65.6	316	18.0	290	16.5
Treatment						
There is an active treatment for AIDS	1134	64.4	362	20.6	264	15.0
There is a vaccine for AIDS	1084	61.6	462	26.3	214	12.2