

**Table 4 Practice of breast self-examination by the women participants**

| Do you examine your breasts periodically | Occupation                 |                      |                      |                    | <i>P</i> -value |
|--|----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
|  | Administrative<br>(N = 58) | Teaching<br>(N = 26) | Student<br>(N = 202) | Total<br>(N = 286) |                 |
|  | No. (%)                    | No. (%)              | No. (%)              | No. (%)            |                 |
| Yes                                      | 27 (46.6)                  | 15 (57.7)            | 96 (47.5)            | 138 (48.3)         | 0.624           |
| No                                       |                            |                      |                      | 148 (51.7)         |                 |
| <b>Why not*</b>                          | (n = 31)                   | (n = 11)             | (n = 106)            | (n = 148)          |                 |
| Afraid of finding a lump                 | 8 (25.8)                   | 3 (27.3)             | 8 (7.5)              | 19 (12.8)          | 0.015           |
| I don't know the technique               | 13 (41.9)                  | 5 (45.5)             | 46 (43.4)            | 64 (43.2)          | 0.451           |
| I don't trust my examination             | 8 (25.8)                   | 2 (18.2)             | 39 (36.8)            | 49 (33.1)          | 0.034           |
| I don't think it is of benefit           | 1 (3.2)                    | 0 (0)                | 10 (9.4)             | 11 (7.4)           | 0.317           |

\*Participants could give more than one reason.

N = total number of participants who answered the question.

n = number of participants who did not practise BSE and answered the question on their reasons why not.