

Table 2 Average agreement for different internal obstacles to research activities according to faculty members of Shiraz University of Medical Sciences

Obstacle	Item	% agreement scores	
		Mean	SD
Financial	Lower funding for research activities than other activities	90.2	14.9
	Allocation of research budget is based on reputation and influence	89.2	15.9
	Insufficient budget for scientific research activities	87.8	15.6
	Unsuitable regulations and mechanisms for research proposal budgeting (extreme bureaucracy)	87.6	15.3
	Lack of independence of university in budget allocation and a dependence on governmental budget	85.6	16.3
	Inappropriate allocation of budget and facilities of the university	84.1	18.9
	University unable to acquire all the available research budget due to inappropriate organization	78.8	18.8
Facility-related	Difficulty and delays in funding procurement process	90.0	13.5
	Lack of skilled and efficient co-researchers	87.3	17.2
	Insufficient access to up-to-date, accurate databases at the university	86.1	14.9
	Lack of research materials	82.1	19.2
	Lack of active research cores in the university	81.0	17.9
	Lack of suitable computer facilities and laboratories for research	77.9	19.9
	Lack of skilled service staff (such as typists, laboratory technicians, etc.)	78.1	20.3
	Inefficiency of university's consultation centres	75.7	19.1
	Insufficient access to scientific references (libraries, scientific database subscriptions, full text articles, documents, etc.)	64.0	22.1
Professional	Involvement in routine executive activities	87.0	16.5
	Heavy load of executive work and insufficient time for research	86.1	16.5
	Lack of proper connection with other research organizations	83.4	17.7
	Personal financial problems of faculty members	83.1	20.8
	Limitations to and difficulties in taking part in professional development opportunities	80.8	20.5
	Obstacles to attending seminars and conferences abroad	73.4	23.4
Scientific	Lack of sufficient knowledge of research methods, statistical tests, questionnaire preparation, etc.	85.6	18.5
	Lack of sufficient skills with computer hardware and software	80.0	19.9
	Lack of sufficient skills in writing scientific papers	79.8	17.8
	Lack of suitable skills for preparing articles for international journals and presentations at congresses	78.9	20.3
	Lack of suitable skills for identifying, describing, analysing, and processing research problems	76.6	17.8
	Lack of suitable skills in searching for international articles and using electronic journals	75.8	20.4
	Lack of suitable skills in using foreign language references in different studies	70.3	23.4
Personal	Self-centred attitude among faculty members and lack of involvement in group activities	87.3	15.5
	Declining scientific involvement	84.0	17.0
	Increasing apathy among faculty members over community's problems	81.9	18.9
	Lack of researchers' commitment to research and scientific trustworthiness	80.4	17.4
	Copying research ideas from other researchers rather than trying to address current problems of society	79.8	18.9
	Lack of individual motivations for research	79.4	21.1
	Personal and family problems	78.1	21.8