

Table 1 Summary of characteristics of surveyed academic programmes in public health in five cities in Pakistan, 2015

Master's programme characteristics	Overall (n = 17)	Type of degree programme	
		MPH/MSPH general (n = 12)	MPH/MS specialized (n = 5)
<i>Public vs. private ownership (Public) [No., (%)]</i>	7 (41)	5 (42)	2 (40)
<i>Age of programme (years) [median (range)]</i>	7 (4–23)	6 (4–23)	13 (5–19)
<i>Programme started after 2005^a [No. (%)]</i>	10 (59)	8 (67)	2 (40)
<i>Recognized by Pakistan Medical and Dental Council, [No. (%)]</i>	13 (77)	8 (67)	5 (100)
Programme structure			
Total credit hours [median (range)] ^b	60 (46–72)	60 (46–72)	61 (46–72)
Research dissertation credit hours [median (range)] ^c	8 (6–24)	6 (6–13)	12 (4–24)
Practicum/internships required [No. (%)] (n = 12)	1 (8)	1 (10)	0 (0)
Faculty size^d [median (range)]	17 (5–39)	11 (5–39)	28 (17–39)
Full-time faculty [median (range)]	7 (0–20)	5 (0–20)	20 (4–20)
Visiting faculty [median (range)]	9 (0–19)	8 (0–19)	10 (8–19)
Tuition cost^e (2016 PPP US\$) [median (range)]	10 350 (2008–61 001)	8396 (5 141–15 182)	15 182 (2008–61 001)

MPH = Master of Public Health; MSPH = Master of Science in Public Health; MS = Master of Science.

^aThe cut-off year indicates the devastating 2005 Pakistan earthquake potentially creating a demand for public health practitioners.

^bOne programme provided details in teaching hours instead of credit hours and is not included.

^cP < 0.05 using Mann-Whitney U test; the differences for other variables were not significant at P = 0.05.

^dFaculty size information for one public sector institute is not reported here since it was an outlier (70 full-time faculty members and no visiting faculty).

^eTuition costs were calculated in international dollars using Pakistan's purchasing power parity (PPP) conversion factor for gross domestic product of 29.18 (10).