

**Table 6 Significant predictors of students' opinions supporting the continuation of female genital mutilation (FGM) (multiple regression analysis)**

| <b>Variable</b>   | <b>B</b> | <b>P-value</b> | <b>R</b> | <b>Exp (B)</b> |
|---|----------|----------------|----------|----------------|
| Medical students (future physicians) cannot contribute to the abolition of FGM          | 3.1346   | < 0.001        | 0.2769   | 22.9800        |
| FGM is not a violation of the human rights girls and women                              | 1.7627   | 0.0006         | 0.1561   | 5.8284         |
| FGM prevents promiscuity in girls   | 1.5808   | 0.0049         | 0.1223   | 4.8591         |
| Mild forms of FGM (type I) do not lead to any complications; it is therefore acceptable | 1.1629   | 0.0134         | 0.1020   | 3.1993         |
| FGM helps the genitalia to be kept clean  | -1.3399  | 0.0460         | -0.0708  | 0.261          |
| Constant  | -4.1258  | (< 0.001)      |          |                |

*Model  $\chi^2=222.138 = ^2$ ,  $df = 21$ ,  $P < 0.001$ .*