

Table 2 Dental students' agreement with statements about dental health and hygiene in the Hiroshima University-Dental Behavioral Inventory: distribution by sex

| Item | Males (n = 85) | | Females (n = 175) | | χ^2 -value | P-value |
|--|----------------|------|-------------------|------|-----------------|---------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | | |
| I do not worry much about visiting the dentist | 45 | 52.9 | 57 | 32.6 | 9.96 | 0.002** |
| My gums tend to bleed when I brush my teeth | 27 | 31.8 | 56 | 32.0 | 0.001 | 0.970 |
| I worry about the colour of my teeth | 72 | 84.7 | 152 | 86.9 | 0.22 | 0.638 |
| I have noticed white sticky deposits on my teeth | 38 | 44.7 | 60 | 34.3 | 2.65 | 0.104 |
| I use a child-sized toothbrush | 11 | 12.9 | 15 | 8.6 | 1.21 | 0.271 |
| I think that I can not help having false teeth when I am old | 46 | 54.1 | 96 | 54.9 | 0.01 | 0.911 |
| I am bothered by the colour of my gums | 47 | 55.3 | 89 | 50.9 | 0.45 | 0.502 |
| I think my teeth are getting worse despite my daily brushing | 27 | 31.8 | 75 | 42.9 | 2.95 | 0.086 |
| I brush each of my teeth carefully | 52 | 61.2 | 136 | 77.7 | 7.81 | 0.005** |
| I have never been taught professionally how to brush | 31 | 36.5 | 39 | 22.3 | 5.85 | 0.016* |
| I think I can clean my teeth well without using tooth paste | 19 | 22.4 | 25 | 14.3 | 2.65 | 0.104 |
| I often check my teeth in a mirror after brushing | 67 | 78.8 | 150 | 85.7 | 1.97 | 0.161 |
| I worry about having bad breath | 66 | 77.6 | 138 | 78.9 | 0.05 | 0.824 |
| It is impossible to prevent gum disease with toothbrushing alone | 46 | 54.1 | 110 | 62.9 | 0.11 | 0.177 |
| I put off going to the dentist until I have a toothache | 49 | 57.6 | 82 | 46.9 | 2.66 | 0.103 |
| I have used a dye to see how clean my teeth are | 17 | 20.0 | 27 | 15.4 | 0.85 | 0.356 |
| I use a toothbrush which has hard bristles | 27 | 31.8 | 34 | 19.4 | 4.85 | 0.028* |
| I do not feel I have brushed well unless I brush with strong strokes | 32 | 37.6 | 63 | 36.0 | 0.07 | 0.796 |
| I feel I sometimes take too much time to brush my teeth | 45 | 52.9 | 89 | 50.9 | 0.10 | 0.752 |
| I have had my dentist tell me that I brush very well | 36 | 42.4 | 77 | 44.0 | 0.03 | 0.802 |

*Significant at P < 0.05; **significant at P < 0.01.