

**Table 2 Nurses' knowledge about reasons for use of standard precautions by duration of work experience for those who had heard of standard precautions (n = 98)**

| Aims of standard precautions                 | Work experience (years)   |      |               |      |               |      | Total (n = 98) <sup>a</sup> |      |
|--|---------------------------|------|---------------|------|---------------|------|-----------------------------|------|
|  | < 5 (n = 49) <sup>a</sup> |      | 5-10 (n = 33) |      | > 10 (n = 16) |      | No.                         | %    |
|  | No.                       | %    | No.           | %    | No.           | %    |                             |      |
| Protect HCWs                                 | 29                        | 59.2 | 17            | 51.5 | 11            | 68.8 | 57                          | 58.2 |
| Protect patients getting infected from HCWs  | 14                        | 28.6 | 6             | 18.2 | 3             | 18.3 | 23                          | 23.5 |
| Prevent mutual transfer of infection         | 22                        | 44.9 | 16            | 48.5 | 7             | 43.8 | 45                          | 45.9 |
| Protect HCWs while handling infectious waste | 12                        | 24.5 | 9             | 27.3 | 4             | 25.0 | 25                          | 25.5 |
| Protect HCWs while handling sharp waste      | 11                        | 22.4 | 7             | 21.2 | 4             | 25.0 | 22                          | 22.4 |

Total exceeds 100% due to multiple answers.

<sup>a</sup>3 nurses were unaware of standard precautions.

HCWs = health care workers.