Table 1 Bivariate correlations (Spearman coefficient ρ) between dentists' risk factors and scores on knowledge about hepatitis B, self-reported attitudes towards people with hepatitis B and actual behaviour in agreeing to treat hepatitis B virus (HBV) positive patients (n = 300)

Independent variable	Knowledge[a]		Attitudes[b]		Behaviour[c]	
	ρ	P-value	ρ	P-value	ρ	P-value
Demographic data						
Sex: male	−0.044	0.443	0.023	0.694	0.037	0.526
Age: older	0.022	0.704	0.105	0.070	0.062	0.283
Practice location	−0.048	0.407	−0.048	0.410	−0.041	0.481
Educational characteristics						
Degree: MSD	0.169	0.003	0.068	0.241	−0.105	0.069
Study origin: abroad	−0.111	0.056	−0.025	0.671	0.060	0.301
No. of continuing education courses: ≥ 3	0.185	0.001	0.151	0.009	0.105	0.069
Last course date: ≥ 2 yr	−0.163	0.005	−0.103	0.076	−0.029	0.621
Specialty origin: abroad	0.036	0.708	0.005	0.958	−0.051	0.593
Experience: ≥ 6 yr	−0.014	0.815	0.055	0.348	0.002	0.975
Faculty membership: yes	0.185	0.001	0.008	0.886	0.007	0.904
Source of HBV knowledge						
Classes: yes	0.034	0.558	−0.029	0.620	−0.052	0.371
Books: yes	−0.002	0.974	−0.050	0.385	0.030	0.600
Articles: yes	0.007	0.898	0.083	0.149	0.044	0.443
TV: yes	−0.067	0.248	−0.039	0.506	0.021	0.720
HBV vaccination history						
Vaccinated: yes	0.122	0.034	−0.047	0.416	−0.123	0.032
Titre check: yes	0.082	0.165	0.023	0.700	0.093	0.117
Office characteristics						
Solo practice: yes	0.112	0.054	−0.025	0.671	−0.019	0.742
Group practice: yes	−0.059	0.307	0.106	0.066	−0.073	0.205
No. of personnel: higher	−0.002	0.969	−0.047	0.432	0.087	0.144
Office practices						
Preparation time for next patient: longer	0.120	0.042	0.016	0.787	−0.136	0.021
Use mask: yes	0.032	0.577	0.022	0.708	0.045	0.438
Use gloves: yes	0.011	0.853	0.092	0.111	−0.021	0.717
Use eye-shield: yes	0.183	0.002	−0.039	0.498	0.039	0.499
Have oven: yes	−0.029	0.618	0.059	0.311	0.009	0.880
Have autoclave: yes	0.029	0.614	−0.025	0.672	−0.041	0.484
Self-confidence						
Self-rated knowledge about HBV: higher	0.171	0.003	0.032	0.584	−0.044	0.450

[a]Based on 18 items, higher score indicated better knowledge; [b]Based on 13 items, higher score indicated better attitudes; [c]Based on 1 item, dichotomized into willing or unwilling to treat a simulated HBV-positive patient.
MSD = Master of science in dentistry.