model indicated that for anti-HCV sero-positivity, only the length of employment was associated with an increased odds of being infected (OR 2.8; p<0.006). HCV prevalence in female patients was 0.4% (4/1118; 95% CI 0.1% to 0.9%), while in 801 female blood donors 0% (0/801; 95% CI 0% to 1.1%). Comparison of HCV prevalence with the patients' population and blood donors indicated an decreasing trend in this order: nurses/midwives, patients, blood donors.

**Conclusions** Surgical nurses and midwives show greater prevalence of anti-HCV than their female patients and blood donation candidates which may indicate an important occupational risk. Among those with positive serology, a factor of greatest risk was time in the job suggesting a dose-response effect. Much better recognition of those with positive serology, a factor of greatest risk was time in the job suggesting a dose-response effect. Much better recognition of those with positive serology, a factor of greatest risk was time in the job suggesting a dose-response effect.

**Results**

**Prevalence**

- Surgical nurses and midwives show greater prevalence of anti-HCV than their female patients and blood donation candidates which may indicate an important occupational risk.

- Time in the job suggesting a dose-response effect. Much better recognition of those with positive serology, a factor of greatest risk was time in the job suggesting a dose-response effect.

**Discussion**

- Surgical nurses and midwives show greater prevalence of anti-HCV than their female patients and blood donation candidates which may indicate an important occupational risk.

- Time in the job suggesting a dose-response effect. Much better recognition of those with positive serology, a factor of greatest risk was time in the job suggesting a dose-response effect.

**Conclusions**

Surgical nurses and midwives show greater prevalence of anti-HCV than their female patients and blood donation candidates which may indicate an important occupational risk. Among those with positive serology, a factor of greatest risk was time in the job suggesting a dose-response effect. Much better recognition of those with positive serology, a factor of greatest risk was time in the job suggesting a dose-response effect. Much better recognition of those with positive serology, a factor of greatest risk was time in the job suggesting a dose-response effect. Much better recognition of those with positive serology, a factor of greatest risk was time in the job suggesting a dose-response effect.