**3.9 Data Analysis Plan**

Data were entered into Microsoft Excel (2016) and then imported into IBM SPSS version 25 (IBM Corp., Armonk, NY, USA) and R programming language for analysis. For each quantitative and categorical variable, descriptive statistics were computed and expressed as either frequency and percentage or mean and standard deviation (S.D.). Tables, figures and combination analysis of multiple responses were created with R language while the remaining inferential statistics were done using SPSS. Associations between demographic variables, prevalence, knowledge, and practices were analyzed using chi-square tests. Significantly associated variables were included in multivariate regression analysis, and potential confounders were controlled for, to assess the independent effect of each variable. The knowledge was scored based on the scores obtained by each respondent from the maximum obtainable score of 13 from the questions in the knowledge section, while practice was scored based on the scores obtained by each respondent from the maximum obtainable score of 12. The overall knowledge and practice of the participants were assessed, using a score of 1 for every correct response and 0 for any wrong response. The grading system used for good knowledge was an overall score of 50% and above, while an overall score less than 50% was taken to be poor knowledge