

4.1.4 BV Prevalence

The prevalence of BV in the study population at enrollment was high at 57%, with 33% having mild BV and 24%, severe BV, whereas, 10% had intermediate flora (Figure 1).

4.2 Associations of BV with socio-demographic and behavioral factors

4.2.1 Crude analysis

Table 1 also presents the statistical significance of associations of BV with socio-demographic and behavioral factors. In *crude analyses*, P-values generated using Chi square statistics (X^2) showed a statistically significant association of BV with the variable washing inside the vagina with soap and water in the past week ($P = 0.05$). However, borderline statistical significance was found with the four variables: smoking tobacco in the last month ($P = 0.07$), having a past pregnancy(s) ($P = 0.06$), unskilled manual labour employment ($P = 0.09$), and having a vaginal discharge in the last three months ($P = 0.06$). Other variables (socio-demographic, medical, and behavior factors) were of statistical insignificance ($P > 0.1$) and these included history of sexually transmitted infections, open sore on genitals, dysuria, washing inside the vagina with water only, washing inside the vagina with antiseptic, level of education, marital status, unemployment, having certain amenities or not, age, and various sexual practices like having sex under the influence of alcohol, sex during menses, condom use, number of sexual partners, and frequency of sexual intercourse.

