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Table 4. Mean differences and correlations of proxy responses for different proxy groups across the four domains of the WHOQOL-BREF

Domain	Proxy group	Mean difference †				Correlation					
		Groups	n	Mean difference [95%CI]	Chi ² ‡	Groups	n	Pearson's r [95%CI]	Chi ² ‡	r ² [95%CI] §	
Physical	Close family	8	835	4.0 [1.0 to 7.0]**	0.5	1	73	0.58 [0.4 to 0.72]***	1.0	33%	[16% to 51%]
	Professional	2	285	2.3 [-1.2 to 5.8]		2	285	0.49 [0.39 to 0.56]***		24%	[15% to 32%]
Psychological	Close family	8	835	2.7 [-2.2 to 7.6]	0.6	1	73	0.57 [0.39 to 0.71]***	6.3**	33%	[15% to 50%]
	Professional	2	285	4.8 [2.2 to 7.3]***		2	285	0.30 [0.19 to 0.41]***		9%	[4% to 16%]
Social	Close family	8	835	3.2 [1.5 to 5.0]***	2.3	1	73	0.47 [0.26 to 0.64]***	3.3	22%	[7% to 40%]
	Professional	2	285	6.2 [2.8 to 9.5]***		2	285	0.24 [0.06 to 0.39]**		6%	[0% to 15%]
Environmental	Close family	8	835	-0.8 [-3.5 to 2.0]	16.1***	1	73	0.44 [0.24 to 0.61]***	1.0	19%	[6% to 37%]
	Professional	2	285	6.9 [4.3 to 9.5]***		2	285	0.33 [0.22 to 0.43]***		11%	[5% to 18%]

† Mean difference is between person and proxy ratings on the WHOQOL-BREF 0-100 scale. Difference was calculated as person minus proxy. Therefore, higher scores indicate underestimation of QOL by the proxy.

‡ Chi² test for subgroup differences.

§ r² indicates the proportion of variance in the scores of persons explained by the scores estimated by the proxies.

* indicates P<0.05, ** indicates P<0.01, *** indicates P<0.001