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**Article:**

Crocker, TF, Smith, JK and Skevington, SM (2015) Family and professionals underestimate quality of life across diverse cultures and health conditions: Systematic review. *Journal of Clinical Epidemiology*, 68 (5). pp. 584-595. ISSN 1878-5921

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclinepi.2014.12.007>

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**Table 1. Characteristics of studies**

<b>Study</b>	<b>Countries</b>	<b>Proxy role</b>	<b>Person condition</b>	<b>Number of dyads</b>
Alshubaili 2007 [25]	Kuwait	Family carer	Multiple sclerosis	170
Awadalla 2005 [26]	Sudan	Family carer	Major affective disorder	120
			Neurosis	81
			Schizophrenia	99
Awadalla 2006 [27]	Sudan	Family carer	Type-2 Diabetes	240
Bahrani 2008 [28]	Australia	Family carer	Cancer	117
Chachamovich 2010 [30]	Brazil	Spouse (woman) <sup>†</sup>	Couple with infertility <sup>†</sup>	162
Herrman 2002 [31]	Australia	Case manager	Persisting psychotic disorders	173
Kim 2010 [32]	Republic of Korea	Family carer	Bipolar disorder	50
			Schizophrenia	81
Rabin 2009 [34]	Brazil	Partner of long term co-habitation	Breast cancer	73
Schmidt 2010 [35]	Brazil, Czech Republic, Germany, Spain, Turkey and UK	Various: primarily parents, paid carers and professionals	Mild learning disability	‡614

<sup>†</sup> For infertile couples in Chachamovich 2010 [30], both women and men were proxies for each other. After tossing a coin to select one pairing, we designated men as persons and women as proxies.

<sup>‡</sup> In Schmidt 2010 [35] some persons had two proxies, and these analyses were presented separately. Our analysis took the responses of proxy one only, as this data set was more complete (n=614 (proxy one) vs. n=257 (proxy two)).