

Table 3 Subgroup analysis of QOL among elderly population								
Scale	Variable	Subgroup	No. of studies	Pooled mean score (95% CI)	P ^a	I ²	P ^b	
Role-physical	Age (yr)	60–64	8	63.26 (48.16–84.36)	< 0.001	99.8	< 0.001	
		65–69	4	49.61 (48.57–50.65)	< 0.001	95.4		
		70–74	8	49.03 (48.65–49.40)	< 0.001	98.8		
		≥ 75	3	35.03 (33.94–36.13)	< 0.001	90.4		
	Gender	Male	8	50.52 (42.29–58.75)	<0.001	99.3		0.53
		Female	9	46.71 (38.21–55.22)	< 0.001	99.4		
		Both	6	44.90 (41.99–47.81)	< 0.001	87.7		
	Residence	Own home	11	47.19 (43.52–50.87)	< 0.001	98.6		0.99
		Nursing home	7	48.20 (36.54–59.85)	< 0.001	99.6		
Mixed		5	47.34 (35.64–59.04)	< 0.001	96.7			
Physical function	Age (yr)	60–64	3	62.63 (51.58–87.67)	< 0.001	99.8	0.003	
		65–69	8	52.98 (43.23–62.74)	< 0.001	98.6		
		70–74	8	52.03 (47.18–56.89)	< 0.001	98.6		
		≥ 75	4	34.56 (24.27–44.86)	< 0.001	93.9		
	Gender	Male	8	59.77 (51.81–67.74)	< 0.001	98.6		0.08
		Female	9	47.51 (36.13–58.89)	< 0.001	98.6		
		Both	6	46.98 (39.78–54.17)	< 0.001	98.6		
	Residence	Own home	11	50.13 (44.84–55.43)	< 0.001	99		0.75
		Nursing home	7	55.04 (43.31–66.77)	< 0.001	99.6		
Mixed		5	50.45 (36.99–63.92)	< 0.001	96.7			
Mental health	Age (yr)	60–64	3	62.55 (60.88–64.23)	0.003	82.8	<0.001	
		65–69	8	63.00 (46.33–79.68)	< 0.001	99.3		
		70–74	7	50.70 (46.79–54.61)	< 0.001	98.6		
		≥ 75	4	42.55 (35.36–49.74)	< 0.001	94.1		
	Gender	Male	8	62.58 (53.33–71.82)	< 0.001	99.2		0.18
		Female	9	53.43 (38.31–63.03)	< 0.001	99.5		
		Both	5	47.47 (38.42–56.23)	< 0.001	99.1		
	Residence	Own home	10	57.22 (49.98–64.45)	< 0.001	99.6		0.74
		Nursing home	7	53.79 (48.82–58.77)	< 0.001	98.3		
Mixed		5	54.29 (42.99–65.57)	< 0.001	97.5			
Bodily pain	Age (yr)	60–64	3	57.53 (49.39–65.68)	< 0.001	98.9	0.01	
		65–69	8	60.07 (52.35–67.79)	< 0.001	97.6		
		70–74	8	49.34 (44.22–54.47)	< 0.001	98.7		
		≥ 75	4	46.99 (42.1–51.85)	0.053	61		
	Gender	Male	8	58.84 (53.82–63.85)	< 0.001	95.3		0.27
		Female	9	54.66 (49.20–60.11)	< 0.001	97.9		
		Both	6	46.28 (41.89–50.66)	< 0.001	95.8		
	Residence	Own home	11	52.13 (48.0–56.26)	< 0.001	98		0.58
		Nursing home	7	52.01 (46.75–57.28)	< 0.001	97.5		
Mixed		5	60.99 (44.55–77.3)	< 0.001	98.8			
Social Functioning	Age (yr)	60–64	3	61.74 (59.47–64.00)	< 0.001	92	0.001	
		65–69	7	68.85 (60.03–77.68)	< 0.001	97.5		
		70–74	8	56.8 (52.65–60.29)	< 0.001	97.8		
		≥ 75	4	47.49 (37.86–57.12)	< 0.001	91.2		
	Gender	Male	8	65.66 (60.66–70.66)	< 0.001	97.2		0.05
		Female	9	58.67 (53.67–63.67)	< 0.001	98.3		
		Both	5	51.63 (45.33–57.94)	< 0.001	97.7		
	Residence	Own home	10	64.06 (59.87–68.26)	< 0.001	98.1		0.001
		Nursing home	7	52.49 (47.96–57.02)	< 0.001	97.9		
Mixed		5	62.15 (48.29–75.99)	< 0.001	98			
Role-emotional	Age (yr)	60–64	3	57.38 (36.67–78.09)	< 0.001	99.5	0.01	
		65–69	7	57.06 (51.11–63.01)	< 0.001	93		
		70–74	8	50.88 (47.81–53.95)	< 0.001	97.1		
		≥ 75	4	39.44 (30.46–48.41)	0.001	82.01		
	Gender	Male	8	58.71 (53.70–63.73)	< 0.001	96.6		0.01
		Female	9	49.33 (43.99–54.66)	< 0.001	94.3		
		Both	5	44.74 (39.42–50.05)	< 0.001	95.9		
	Residence	Own home	10	52.27 (49.23–55.30)	< 0.001	97.3		0.82
		Nursing home	7	49.97 (39.91–60.03)	< 0.001	98.7		
Mixed		5	54.78 (43.82–65.73)	< 0.001	92.6			
General health	Age (yr)	60–64	3	60.31 (46.01–74.60)	< 0.001	99.8	0.007	
		65–69	8	51.07 (45.50–56.65)	< 0.001	98.4		
		70–74	8	42.05 (37.85–6.25)	< 0.001	98.9		
		≥ 75	4	43.22 (40.30–46.13)	0.003	78.8		
	Gender	Male	8	54.60 (48.68–60.51)	< 0.001	98.4		0.06
		Female	9	47.59 (43.11–52.07)	< 0.001	99.5		
		Both	6	39.55 (34.29–44.81)	< 0.001	98.1		
	Residence	Own home	11	47.34 (44.79–49.89)	< 0.001	98.9		0.97
		Nursing home	7	48.30 (38.78–57.82)	< 0.001	99.6		
Mixed		5	48.10 (41.13–55.08)	< 0.001	95.5			
Vitality	Age (yr)	60–64	3	57.62 (50.99–64.25)	< 0.001	98.7	0.03	
		65–69	7	52.39 (45.62–59.15)	< 0.001	97.4		
		70–74	7	49.61 (46.09–53.13)	< 0.001	98.3		
		≥ 75	4	46.73 (43.39–50.07)	0.028	67		
	Gender	Male	8	54.18 (48.94–59.43)	< 0.001	96.9		0.28
		Female	9	50.17 (45.21–55.13)	< 0.001	98.5		
		Both	4	48.16 (44.87–51.46)	< 0.001	93.4		
	Residence	Own home	10	52.67 (49.35–55.98)	< 0.001	98.2		0.50
		Nursing home	6	51.85 (46.56–57.13)	< 0.001	98.1		
Mixed		5	47.59 (39.82–55.36)	< 0.001	96.3			
^a Test for heterogeneity.								
^b Test for subgroup difference.								