

**Additional file 4.** Factors associated with polypharmacy across the categories of sociodemographic and other background characteristics in Asmara, Eritrea, 2023

| Variable                    | Category            | Crude OR (95% CI)  | P-value |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------|
| Age                         | -                   | 1.04 (0.98, 1.10)  | 0.241   |
| Sex                         | Male                | 0.63 (0.26, 1.55)  | 0.310   |
|                             | Female              | <i>Ref.</i>        | -       |
| Educational level           | No formal education | 0.59 (0.12, 2.90)  | 0.518   |
|                             | Primary             | 0.90 (0.17, 4.52)  | 0.882   |
|                             | Middle              | 0.42 (0.05, 3.18)  | 0.404   |
|                             | Secondary           | 0.71 (0.09, 5.42)  | 0.714   |
|                             | Higher              | <i>Ref.</i>        | -       |
| Presence of chronic illness | Yes                 | 5.94 (0.79, 44.79) | 0.084   |
|                             | No                  | <i>Ref.</i>        | -       |

**Note:** CI: Confidence Interval; OR: Odds Ratio; *Ref.*: Reference