STROBE Statement—checklist of items that should be included in reports of observational studies

Section/item	Item No	Recommendation	Reported on Page Number/Line Number	Reported on Section/Paragraph
Title and abstract	_	(a) Indicate the study's design with a commonly used term in the title or the abstract	P 2/L25-28	S 2/2
		(b) Provide in the abstract an informative and balanced summary of what was done and what was found	P 2/L20-40	S 1/2
Introduction				
Background/ rationale	20	Explain the scientific background and rationale for the investigation being reported	P 3/L42-55	S 1/1
Objectives	З	State specific objectives, including any prespecified hypotheses	P 4/L64-69	S 3/1
Methods				
Study design	4	Present key elements of study design early in the paper	P 4/L71-79	S 3/2
Setting	Ŋ	Describe the setting, locations, and relevant dates, including periods of recruitment, exposure, follow-up, and data collection	P 4/L71-79	S 3/2
Participants	თ	(a) Cohort study—Give the eligibility criteria, and the sources and methods of selection of participants. Describe methods of follow-up Case-control study—Give the eligibility criteria, and the sources and methods of case ascertainment and control selection. Give the rationale for the choice of cases and controls Cross-sectional study—Give the eligibility criteria, and the sources and methods of selection of participants	P 4/L71-83	S 3/23
		(b) Cohort study —For matched studies, give matching criteria and number of exposed and unexposed Case-control study —For matched studies, give matching criteria and the number of controls per case		
Variables	7	Clearly define all outcomes, exposures, predictors, potential confounders, and effect modifiers. Give diagnostic criteria, if applicable	P5/L98-115	S 3/1-3
Data sources/ measurement	œ _*	For each variable of interest, give sources of data and details of methods of assessment (measurement). Describe comparability of assessment methods if there is more than one group	P5/L98-115	S 3/1-3
Bias	9	Describe any efforts to address potential sources of bias	P4/82-85	S3/1
Study size	10	Explain how the study size was arrived at	N/A	N/A
Quantitative variables	±	Explain how quantitative variables were handled in the analyses. If applicable, describe which groupings were chosen and why	P6/117-124	S 4/1

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18 Summarise key results with reference to study objectives 19 Discuss limitations of the study, taking into account sources of potential bias or imprecision. Discuss both direction p10/210-213 and magnitude of any potential bias	Other analyses	17	Report other analyses done—eg analyses of subgroups and interactions, and sensitivity analyses	P7/146-152	S2/1
Summarise key results with reference to study objectives 19 Discuss limitations of the study, taking into account sources of potential bias or imprecision. Discuss both direction p10/210-213 and magnitude of any potential bias	Discussion				
Discuss limitations of the study, taking into account sources of potential bias or imprecision. Discuss both direction and magnitude of any potential bias	Key results	18	Summarise key results with reference to study objectives	P8/154-159	S1/1
	Limitations	19	ng into account sources of potential bias or imprecision.	P10/210-213	S4/1

2/248 N/A	Give the source of funding and the role of the funders for the present study and, if applicable, for the original study on which the present article is based	22	Funding
			Other information
P11/213-214	21 Discuss the generalisability (external validity) of the study results P11/2	21	Generalisability
P9-10/160-209	Give a cautious overall interpretation of results considering objectives, limitations, multiplicity of analyses, results pp.10 from similar studies, and other relevant evidence	20	Interpretation

*Give information separately for cases and controls in case-control studies and, if applicable, for exposed and unexposed groups in cohort and cross-sectional studies.

annals.org/, and Epidemiology at http://www.epidem.com/). Information on the STROBE Initiative is available at www.strobe-statement.org. checklist is best used in conjunction with this article (freely available on the Web sites of PLoS Medicine at http://www.plosmedicine.org/, Annals of Internal Medicine at http://www. Note: An Explanation and Elaboration article discusses each checklist item and gives methodological background and published examples of transparent reporting. The STROBE

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*As the checklist was provided upon initial submission, the page number/line number reported may be changed due to copyediting and may not be referable in the published version. In this case, the section/paragraph may be used as an alternative reference.