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	1	(a) Indicate the study's design with a commonly used term in the title or the abstract	line 2, page 1	Title
		(b) Provide in the abstract an informative and balanced summary of what was done and what was found	line 42-45, page 4; Line	Background and
Introduction				
Background/ rationale	2	Explain the scientific background and rationale for the investigation being reported	line 104-106, page 7	paragraph 2 in Introduction section
Objectives	3	State specific objectives, including any prespecified hypotheses	line 106-108, page 7	paragraph 2 in
Methods				
Study design	4	Present key elements of study design early in the paper	line 116, page 8	paragraph 1 in Methods
Setting	5	Describe the setting, locations, and relevant dates, including periods of recruitment, exposure, follow-up, and data collection	line 113-121, page 8; line 194-195, page 11	paragraph 1 and 5 in Methods section
Participants	6	(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	line 121-126, page 8; line 191-193, page 11	paragraph 1 and 5 in Methods section
		(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	N/A	This is not a matched study
Variables	7	Clearly define all outcomes, exposures, predictors, potential confounders, and effect modifiers. Give diagnostic criteria, if applicable	line 191-198, page 11	paragraph 5-7 in Methods section
Data sources/ measurement	8*	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	line 139-198, page 9-11	paragraph 5 in Methods section
Bias	9	Describe any efforts to address potential sources of bias	Line 140-141, page 9 and	paragraph 3 and 5 in
Study size	10	Explain how the study size was arrived at	line 113-114 and 121-129,	paragraph 1 in Methods
Quantitative variables	11	Explain how quantitative variables were handled in the analyses. If applicable, describe which groupings were chosen and why	line 202-209, page 12	paragraph 6 in Methods

Statistical methods	12	(a) Describe all statistical methods, including those used to control for confounding	line 200-209, page 12	paragraph 6 in Methods
		(b) Describe any methods used to examine subgroups and interactions	N/A	This is a single-arm
		(c) Explain how missing data were addressed	line 126-129, page 8	paragraph 1 in Methods
		(d) ***Cohort study***—If applicable, explain how loss to follow-up was addressed ***Case-control study***—If applicable, explain how matching of cases and controls was addressed ***Cross-sectional study***—If applicable, describe analytical methods taking account of sampling strategy	N/A	This is not a matched study
		(e) Describe any sensitivity analyses	N/A	This study isn't involved
Results				
Participants	13*	(a) Report numbers of individuals at each stage of study—eg numbers potentially eligible, examined for eligibility, confirmed eligible, included in the study, completing follow-up, and analysed	line 213, page 12	paragraph 1 in Results section
		(b) Give reasons for non-participation at each stage	N/A	This study isn't involved
		(c) Consider use of a flow diagram	line 213, page 12; figure 1	paragraph 1 in Results
Descriptive data	14*	(a) Give characteristics of study participants (eg demographic, clinical, social) and information on exposures and potential confounders	line 213-225, page 12 and 13	paragraph 1 in Results section
		(b) Indicate number of participants with missing data for each variable of interest	line 213, page 12; figure 1	paragraph 1 in Results
		(c) ***Cohort study***—Summarise follow-up time (eg, average and total amount)	line 241, page 13	paragraph 3 in Results
Outcome data	15*	***Cohort study***—Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures over time	line 227-238, page 13; line	paragraph 2, 3in Results;
		Case-control study—Report numbers in each exposure category, or summary measures of exposure	N/A	This isn't a case-control
		Cross-sectional study—Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures	N/A	This isn't a cross-sectional
Main results	16	(a) Give unadjusted estimates and, if applicable, confounder-adjusted estimates and their precision (eg, 95% confidence interval). Make clear which confounders were adjusted for and why they were included	line 253-254, page 14	paragraph 4 in Results section
		(b) Report category boundaries when continuous variables were categorized	N/A	This study hasn't
		(c) If relevant, consider translating estimates of relative risk into absolute risk for a meaningful time period	N/A	This study is not involved
Other analyses	17	Report other analyses done—eg analyses of subgroups and interactions, and sensitivity analyses	line 252-256, page 14	paragraph 4 in Results
Discussion				
Key results	18	Summarise key results with reference to study objectives	line 315-317, page 17	paragraph 3 in Discussion
Limitations	19	Discuss limitations of the study, taking into account sources of potential bias or imprecision. Discuss both direction and magnitude of any potential bias	line 374-380, page 19 and 20	paragraph 6 in Discussion section

Interpretation	20	Give a cautious overall interpretation of results considering objectives, limitations, multiplicity of analyses, results from similar studies, and other relevant evidence	line 315-323, page 17; line 329-337, page 17 and 18;	paragraph 3-5 in Discussion section
Generalisability	21	Discuss the generalisability (external validity) of the study results	line 375-378, page 19 and	paragraph 6 in Discussion
Other information				
Funding	22	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	N/A	This study is not involved with any fundings.

*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.

Note: An Explanation and Elaboration article discusses each checklist item and gives methodological background and published examples of transparent reporting. The STROBE 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.annals.org/, and Epidemiology at http://www.epidem.com/). Information on the STROBE Initiative is available at www.strobe-statement.org.

Article information: https://dx.doi.org/10.21037/qims-22-530
*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.