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	Page 3 line 45-47	Abstract-Methods
		(b) Provide in the abstract an informative and balanced summary of what was done and what was found	Page 3-4 line 41-64	Abstract
Introduction				
Background/ rationale	2	Explain the scientific background and rationale for the investigation being reported	Page 5-6 line67-98	Introduction Paragraph 1-2
Objectives	3	State specific objectives, including any prespecified hypotheses	Page 6 line 94-97	Introduction Paragraph 2
Methods				
Study design	4	Present key elements of study design early in the paper	Page 6 line 101-111	Methods Paragraph 3
Setting	5	Describe the setting, locations, and relevant dates, including periods of recruitment, exposure, follow-up, and data collection	Page 6-7 line 101-126	Methods Paragraph 3-5
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	Page 6-7 line 101-126 Page 9-10 line 173-192	Methods Paragraph 3-5 and 10-11
		(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 (we didn't use the matched analysis)	N/A (we didn't use the matched analysis)
Variables	7	Clearly define all outcomes, exposures, predictors, potential confounders, and effect modifiers. Give diagnostic criteria, if applicable	Page 9 line 173-192	Methods Paragraph 10-11
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	Page 7-8 line 128-144	Methods Paragraph 6
Bias	9	Describe any efforts to address potential sources of bias	Page 6 line 106-111	Methoeds Paragraphy 3
Study size	10	Explain how the study size was arrived at	Page 6 line 101-103	Methods Paragraph 3
Quantitative variables	11	Explain how quantitative variables were handled in the analyses. If applicable, describe which groupings were chosen and why	Page 10 line 194-197	Statistical Analysis Paragraph 12

Statistical methods	12	(a) Describe all statistical methods, including those used to control for confounding	Page 10-11 line 194-202	Paragraph 12
		(b) Describe any methods used to examine subgroups and interactions	N/A (uninvolved)	N/A (uninvolved)
		(c) Explain how missing data were addressed	N/A (no missing)	N/A (no missing)
		(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 (not applicable)	N/A (not applicable)
		(e) Describe any sensitivity analyses	N/A (uninvolved)	N/A (uninvolved)
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	Page 11-12 line 204-232	Results Paregraph 13-15
		(b) Give reasons for non-participation at each stage	Page 11 line 205-206	Results paragraph 13
		(c) Consider use of a flow diagram	Page 11 line 206; Page 26	Results paragraph 13
Descriptive data	14*	(a) Give characteristics of study participants (eg demographic, clinical, social) and information on exposures and potential confounders	Page 11 line 205-214	Results paragraph 13
		(b) Indicate number of participants with missing data for each variable of interest	Page 11 line 214, 216-232	Results Paragraph 13-15
		(c) ***Cohort study***—Summarise follow-up time (eg, average and total amount)	N/A (not applicable)	N/A (not applicable)
Outcome data	15*	***Cohort study***—Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures over time	N/A (not applicable)	N/A (not applicable)
		Case-control study—Report numbers in each exposure category, or summary measures of exposure	Page 11-12 page 216-232	Results Paragraph 14-15
		Cross-sectional study—Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures	N/A (not applicable)	N/A (not applicable)
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	Page 16 line 245-254	Results Paragraph 16-17
		(b) Report category boundaries when continuous variables were categorized	N/A (not applicable)	N/A (not applicable)
		(c) If relevant, consider translating estimates of relative risk into absolute risk for a meaningful time period	N/A (not applicable)	N/A (not applicable)
Other analyses	17	Report other analyses done—eg analyses of subgroups and interactions, and sensitivity analyses	N/A (not applicable)	N/A (not applicable)
Discussion				
Key results	18	Summarise key results with reference to study objectives	Page 16 line 248-254	Discussion Paragraph 17
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	Page 18-19 line 309-316	Discussion Paragraph 21

Interpretation	20	Give a cautious overall interpretation of results considering objectives, limitations, multiplicity of analyses, results from similar studies, and other relevant evidence	Page 16-18line 256-308	Discussion Paragraph 18-20
Generalisability	21	Discuss the generalisability (external validity) of the study results	Page 18 line 296-308	Discussion Paragraph 20
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	Page 19 line 328-330	Funding

*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.

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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.