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 40	Abstract/Paragraph 2
		(b) Provide in the abstract an informative and balanced summary of what was done and what was found	Page 3/Line 40-60	Abstract/Paragraph 2-3
Introduction				
Background/ rationale	2	Explain the scientific background and rationale for the investigation being reported	Page 5-6/Line 71-115	Introduction/Paragraph 1-4
Objectives	3	State specific objectives, including any prespecified hypotheses	Page 6-7/Line 116-121	Introduction/Paragraph 5
Methods				
Study design	4	Present key elements of study design early in the paper	Page 7/Line 126-130	Methods and
Setting	5	Describe the setting, locations, and relevant dates, including periods of recruitment, exposure, follow-up, and data collection	a. Page 7/Line 133-137 b. Page 9/Line 172-174	a. Methods and materials/Paragraph 7
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	a. Page 7/Line 133-138 b. Page 8/Line 147-149 c. Page 9/Line 172-174	a.Methods and materials/Paragraph 7 b.Methods and materials/Paragraph 8 c.Methods and materials/Paragraph 10
		(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	a.Page7/Line 133-135 b. Page 8/Line 144-149	a. Methods and materials/Paragraph 7
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	a.Page8-9/Line 156-172 b.Page9/Line 177-193	a. Methods and materials/Paragraph 10
Bias	9	Describe any efforts to address potential sources of bias	a.Page7/Line 137-138	a. Methods and
Study size	10	Explain how the study size was arrived at	Page7/Line 139	Methods and
Quantitative variables	11	Explain how quantitative variables were handled in the analyses. If applicable, describe which groupings were chosen and why	Page10-11/Line 196-240	Methods and materials/Paragraph 13-16

Statistical methods	12	(a) Describe all statistical methods, including those used to control for confounding	Page12/Line 243-256	Methods and
		(b) Describe any methods used to examine subgroups and interactions	Page12/Line 251-254	Methods and
		(c) Explain how missing data were addressed	Page12/Line 243	Methods and
		(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	Page11/Line 243	Methods and materials/Paragraph 17
		(e) Describe any sensitivity analyses	Page12/Line 254-256	Methods and
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	Page12/Line 260-264	Results/Paragraph 19
		(b) Give reasons for non-participation at each stage	Page12/Line 261-263	Results/Paragraph 19
		(c) Consider use of a flow diagram	Page12/Line 264-265	Results/Paragraph 19
Descriptive data	14*	(a) Give characteristics of study participants (eg demographic, clinical, social) and information on exposures and potential confounders	Page12-13/Line 266-270	Results/Paragraph 19
		(b) Indicate number of participants with missing data for each variable of interest	Page12/Line 261-263	Results/Paragraph 19
		(c) ***Cohort study***—Summarise follow-up time (eg, average and total amount)	Page12/Line 265-266	Results/Paragraph 19
Outcome data	15*	***Cohort study***—Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures over time	a.Page13/Line 270-274	a.Results/Paragraph 19
		Case-control study—Report numbers in each exposure category, or summary measures of exposure	N/A;This is not a	
		Cross-sectional study—Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures	N/A;This is not a	
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	a.Page13/Line 271-274 b.Page13/Line 278-288	a. Results/Paragraph 19 b. Results/Paragraph 20
		(b) Report category boundaries when continuous variables were categorized	Page12/Line 266-268	Results/Paragraph 19
		(c) If relevant, consider translating estimates of relative risk into absolute risk for a meaningful time period	N/A;This is no risk in this	
Other analyses	17	Report other analyses done—eg analyses of subgroups and interactions, and sensitivity analyses	Page14/Line 310-313	Results/Paragraph 21
Discussion				
Key results	18	Summarise key results with reference to study objectives	Page15/Line 316-330	Discusion/Paragraph 22
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	Page21/Line 468-483	Discusion/Paragraph 35

Interpretation	20	Give a cautious overall interpretation of results considering objectives, limitations, multiplicity of analyses, results from similar studies, and other relevant evidence	Page15-20/Line 333-465	Discusion/Paragraph 23-34
Generalisability	21	Discuss the generalisability (external validity) of the study results	Page22/Line 493-496	Discusion/Paragraph 36
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	Page22/Line 507-512	Acknowledgments/Paragraph 39

*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.