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	pg 23 / Line 38	Abstract/Methods
		(b) Provide in the abstract an informative and balanced summary of what was done and what was found	pg 3 / Lines 49-53	Abstract/Conclusion
Introduction				
Background/ rationale	2	Explain the scientific background and rationale for the investigation being reported	pg 4-5/ Lines 57-87	Intro/first and second paragraphs
Objectives	3	State specific objectives, including any prespecified hypotheses	pg 5 / lines 88-90	Intro/third paraphgrah
Methods				
Study design	4	Present key elements of study design early in the paper	pg 5 / lines 93-98	Methods/first paragraph
Setting	5	Describe the setting, locations, and relevant dates, including periods of recruitment, exposure, follow-up, and data collection	pg 5 / lines 95-98	Methods/first paragraph
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: Cohort Study pg 5-6 / lines 95-105	Methods/first and second paragraph
		(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	Not a matched study	Not a matched study
Variables	7	Clearly define all outcomes, exposures, predictors, potential confounders, and effect modifiers. Give diagnostic criteria, if applicable	pg 6 / lines 100-105	Methods/variables and definitsions/1-2nd
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	pg 5-6 / lines 100-114	Methods/variables and definitions/1-2nd
Bias	9	Describe any efforts to address potential sources of bias	pg 6 / lines 110-114	Methods/V&Def/2nd
Study size	10	Explain how the study size was arrived at	pg 5 / lines 93-95	Methods/1st paragraph
Quantitative variables	11	Explain how quantitative variables were handled in the analyses. If applicable, describe which groupings were chosen and why	pg 6 / lines 106-114	Methods/3rd paragraph

Statistical methods	12	(a) Describe all statistical methods, including those used to control for confounding	pg 6/ lines 116-126	Methods/4th paragraph
		(b) Describe any methods used to examine subgroups and interactions	pg 6 / lines 116-126	Methods/4th paragarph
		(c) Explain how missing data were addressed	pg 6 / lines 119	Methods/4th paragarph
		(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	pg 6/ line 121	Methods/4th paragraph
		(e) Describe any sensitivity analyses	pg 6-7/lines 125-127	Methods/4th paragraph
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	pg 7 / lines 131-133 pg 7 / lines 142-144	Results/1st and 2nd paragraphs
		(b) Give reasons for non-participation at each stage	N/A - no non-participating	N/A
		(c) Consider use of a flow diagram	N/A - no non-participating	N/A
Descriptive data	14*	(a) Give characteristics of study participants (eg demographic, clinical, social) and information on exposures and potential confounders	pg 7 / lines 131-139	Results/1st paragraph
		(b) Indicate number of participants with missing data for each variable of interest	N/A - none excluded	N/A
		(c) ***Cohort study***—Summarise follow-up time (eg, average and total amount)	pg 8 / line154-155	Results/3rd paragraph
Outcome data	15*	***Cohort study***—Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures over time	pg 7-8 / lines 130 - 170	Results/1-4th paragraphs
		Case-control study—Report numbers in each exposure category, or summary measures of exposure	N/A	N/A
		Cross-sectional study—Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures	N/A	N/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	pg 8 / lines 163 - 171	Results / 4th paragraph
		(b) Report category boundaries when continuous variables were categorized	pg 8 / lines 155 - 157	Results / 3rd paragraph
		(c) If relevant, consider translating estimates of relative risk into absolute risk for a meaningful time period	N/A - HR used	N/A
Other analyses	17	Report other analyses done—eg analyses of subgroups and interactions, and sensitivity analyses	pg 8 / lines 167-171	Results / 4th paragraph
Discussion				
Key results	18	Summarise key results with reference to study objectives	pg 9 / lines 174 - 183	Discussion / 1st paragraph
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	pg 11 / lines 231-242	Discussion / 5th paragraph

Interpretation	20	Give a cautious overall interpretation of results considering objectives, limitations, multiplicity of analyses, results from similar studies, and other relevant evidence	pg 9-11 / lines 184 - 230	Discussion / 2nd - 4th paragraph
Generalisability	21	Discuss the generalisability (external validity) of the study results	pg 11 / lines 239 - 242	Discussion / 5th paragraph
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	pg 1 / lines 22-23	Title/Cover page

*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/apc-21-11
*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.