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	P1; Lines 3	Title; Retrospective
		(b) Provide in the abstract an informative and balanced summary of what was done and what was found	P2-3; Lines 33 - 71	Abstract
Introduction				
Background/ rationale	2	Explain the scientific background and rationale for the investigation being reported	P5-6; Lines 78 - 125	Introduction, Section 1.1 Background / Rationale
Objectives	3	State specific objectives, including any prespecified hypotheses	P6; Lines 127 - 129	Introduction, Section 1.1
Methods				
Study design	4	Present key elements of study design early in the paper	P6-7: Lines 133 - 168	Patients and Methods,
Setting	5	Describe the setting, locations, and relevant dates, including periods of recruitment, exposure, follow-up, and data collection	1. Setting /Location: Single Australian	Patients and Methods, Section 2
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 (1) Eligibility Criteria: Inclusion criteria P6 and 7: Lines 136- 139; Exclusion criteria P7: 143-145. (2) Sources and Methods	Patients and Methods, Section 2
		(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	N/A
Variables	7	Clearly define all outcomes, exposures, predictors, potential confounders, and effect modifiers. Give diagnostic criteria, if applicable	Outcomes: (1) Categorisation of "yp"	Patients and Methods, Section 2, Main Text.
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	Methods of Assessment: (1) Categorisation of	Patients and Methods, Section 2, Main Text.
Bias	9	Describe any efforts to address potential sources of bias	N/A	N/A
Study size	10	Explain how the study size was arrived at	As per inclusion/exclusion	Patients and Methods,
Quantitative variables	11	Explain how quantitative variables were handled in the analyses. If applicable, describe which groupings were chosen and why	Analysis was done with Stata v16.0MP, p-value	Patients and Methods, Section 2

Statistical methods	12	(a) Describe all statistical methods, including those used to control for confounding	(1) Clinical and yp stages	Patients and Methods,
		(b) Describe any methods used to examine subgroups and interactions	N/A	N/A
		(c) Explain how missing data were addressed	N/A	N/A
		(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	Patients were censored on last date of contact - P7 Lines160- 161.	Patients and Methods, Section
		(e) Describe any sensitivity analyses	N/A	N/A
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	Eligible sample of 136 patients included in study,	Results, Section 3.
		(b) Give reasons for non-participation at each stage	Exclusion: Patients who	Results, Section 3.
		(c) Consider use of a flow diagram	Appendix 1 - P2 Section	Appendix 1: A4 Study
Descriptive data	14*	(a) Give characteristics of study participants (eg demographic, clinical, social) and information on exposures and potential confounders	Patient Characteristics - P8 Lines 174 - 177.	Results, Section 3.
		(b) Indicate number of participants with missing data for each variable of interest	N/A	N/A
		(c) ***Cohort study***—Summarise follow-up time (eg, average and total amount)	Follow-up period - P8	Results, Section 3.
Outcome data	15*	***Cohort study***—Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures over time	Outcome Events:	Results, Section 3.
		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	Treatment outcomes based on neoadjuvant therapy:	Results, Section 3.
		(b) Report category boundaries when continuous variables were categorized	N/A	N/A
		(c) If relevant, consider translating estimates of relative risk into absolute risk for a meaningful time period	N/A	N/A
Other analyses	17	Report other analyses done—eg analyses of subgroups and interactions, and sensitivity analyses	Other Analyses:	Results, Section 3.
Discussion				
Key results	18	Summarise key results with reference to study objectives	Key Results with regards	Discussion, Section 4.
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	Limitations / Biases - P10 and 11 Lines 269 - 283.	Discussion, Section 4.

Interpretation	20	Give a cautious overall interpretation of results considering objectives, limitations, multiplicity of analyses, results from similar studies, and other relevant evidence	Overall Interpretation: (1)Add to current	Discussion, Section 4. Conclusion - Section 5
Generalisability	21	Discuss the generalisability (external validity) of the study results	N/A	N/A
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	N/A

*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.