

The REMARK checklist

Item to be reported	Reported on Page Number/Line Number	Reported on Section/Paragraph
INTRODUCTION		
1 State the marker examined, the study objectives, and any pre-specified hypotheses.	4, Line 88	Paragraphs 3 and 4
MATERIALS AND METHODS		
<i>Patients</i>		
2 Describe the characteristics (e.g., disease stage or co-morbidities) of the study patients, including their source and inclusion and exclusion criteria.	Pages 5& 6 Lines 107 - 126	Methods, Section entitled “Patients and clinical samples”
3 Describe treatments received and how chosen (e.g., randomized or rule-based).	N/A	N/A
<i>Specimen characteristics</i>		
4 Describe type of biological material used (including control samples) and methods of preservation and storage.	Page 6 Lines 123 - 126	Methods, Section entitled “Patients and clinical samples”
<i>Assay methods</i>		
5 Specify the assay method used and provide (or reference) a detailed protocol, including specific reagents or kits used, quality control procedures, reproducibility assessments, quantitation methods, and scoring and reporting protocols. Specify whether and how assays were performed blinded to the study endpoint.	Page 6. Lines 134-140 Page 6. Lines 143-147	Methods, Sections entitled “Immunohistochemistry Detection Methods” and “Assessment of Immunohistochemistry”
<i>Study design</i>		
6 State the method of case selection, including whether prospective or retrospective and whether stratification or matching (e.g., by stage of disease or age) was used. Specify the time period from which cases were taken, the end of the follow-up period, and the median follow-up time.	Page 5 Lines 107-122	Methods, Section entitled “Patients and clinical samples”
7 Precisely define all clinical endpoints examined.	Page 9, Lines 221-228	Results, Section entitled “Pattern of USO1 expression in NSCLC and correlation to clinicopathological parameters”, Table 1, and Figure 3
8 List all candidate variables initially examined or considered for inclusion in models.	N/A	N/A
9 Give rationale for sample size; if the study was designed to detect a specified effect size, give the target power and effect size.	N/A	N/A
<i>Statistical analysis methods</i>		
10 Specify all statistical methods, including details of any variable selection procedures and other model-building issues, how model assumptions were verified, and how missing data were handled.	Page 8, Lines 203-208	Methods, Supplementary Data
11 Clarify how marker values were handled in the analyses; if relevant, describe methods used for cutpoint determination.	Pages 6-8; Lines 143-208	Methods, Results
RESULTS		
<i>Data</i>		

Source: McShane LM, Altman DG, Sauerbrei W, Taube SE, Gion M, Clark GM: Reporting recommendations for tumor marker prognostic studies (REMARK). *J Natl Cancer Inst* 2005; 97: 1180-1184.

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12	Describe the flow of patients through the study, including the number of patients included in each stage of the analysis (a diagram may be helpful) and reasons for dropout. Specifically, both overall and for each subgroup extensively examined report the numbers of patients and the number of events.	N/A	N/A
13	Report distributions of basic demographic characteristics (at least age and sex), standard (disease-specific) prognostic variables, and tumor marker, including numbers of missing values.	Table 1	Results/Table 1
<i>Analysis and presentation</i>			
14	Show the relation of the marker to standard prognostic variables.	Table 1	Table 1, Results, Supplementary data
15	Present univariable analyses showing the relation between the marker and outcome, with the estimated effect (e.g., hazard ratio and survival probability). Preferably provide similar analyses for all other variables being analyzed. For the effect of a tumor marker on a time-to-event outcome, a Kaplan-Meier plot is recommended.	Figure 3	Results, Figure 3
16	For key multivariable analyses, report estimated effects (e.g., hazard ratio) with confidence intervals for the marker and, at least for the final model, all other variables in the model.	Figures 4, 5, 6	Results, Figures 4, 5, 6 Supplementary data
17	Among reported results, provide estimated effects with confidence intervals from an analysis in which the marker and standard prognostic variables are included, regardless of their statistical significance.	Tables 2-4	Tables 2-4, Supplementary data
18	If done, report results of further investigations, such as checking assumptions, sensitivity analyses, and internal validation.	N/A	N/A
DISCUSSION			
19	Interpret the results in the context of the pre-specified hypotheses and other relevant studies; include a discussion of limitations of the study.	Lines 374-381	Discussion
20	Discuss implications for future research and clinical value.	Lines 374-381, Lines 443-452	Discussion

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*As the checklist was provided upon initial submission, the page number/line number reported may be changed due to