Reporting Guideline Checklist

STROBE Statement—checklist of items that should be included in reports of observational studies

	Item		
	No	Recommendation	Yes/No
Title and abstract	1	(<i>a</i>) Indicate the study's design with a commonly used term in the title or the abstract	Yes
		(b) Provide in the abstract an informative and balanced summary of what was done and what was found	Yes
Introduction			
Background/rationale	2	Explain the scientific background and rationale for the investigation being reported	Yes
Objectives	3	State specific objectives, including any prespecified hypotheses	Yes
Methods			
Study design	4	Present key elements of study design early in the paper	Yes
Setting	5	Describe the setting, locations, and relevant dates, including periods of recruitment, exposure, follow-up, and data collection	Yes
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 	Yes
		(b) Cohort study—For matched studies, give matching criteria and number of exposed and unexposed <i>Case-control study</i> —For matched studies, give matching criteria and the number of controls per case	N/A
Variables	7	Clearly define all outcomes, exposures, predictors, potential confounders, and effect modifiers. Give diagnostic criteria, if applicable	Yes
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	Yes
Bias	9	Describe any efforts to address potential sources of bias	Yes
Study size	10	Explain how the study size was arrived at	Yes
Quantitative variables	11	Explain how quantitative variables were handled in the analyses. If applicable, describe which groupings were	Yes

	10	chosen and why	X 7
Statistical methods	12	(a) Describe all statistical methods, including those	Yes
		used to control for confounding	
		(b) Describe any methods used to examine subgroups	Yes
		and interactions	
		(c) Explain how missing data were addressed	Yes
		(d) Cohort study—If applicable, explain how loss to	Yes
		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	
		(<u>e</u>) Describe any sensitivity analyses	N/A
Continued on next page			

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	Yes
		analysed	
		(b) Give reasons for non-participation at each stage	Yes
		(c) Consider use of a flow diagram	Yes
Descriptive	14*	(a) Give characteristics of study participants (eg demographic,	Yes
data		clinical, social) and information on exposures and potential	
		confounders	
		(b) Indicate number of participants with missing data for each	Yes
		variable of interest	
		(c) Cohort study—Summarise follow-up time (eg, average and	Yes
		total amount)	
Outcome data	15*	Cohort study—Report numbers of outcome events or summary	Yes
		measures over time	
		Case-control study—Report numbers in each exposure category,	
		or summary measures of exposure	
		<i>Cross-sectional study</i> —Report numbers of outcome events or	
		summary measures	
Main results	16	(a) Give unadjusted estimates and, if applicable, confounder-	Yes
		adjusted estimates and their precision (eg, 95% confidence	
		interval). Make clear which confounders were adjusted for and	
		why they were included	
		(b) Report category boundaries when continuous variables were	Yes
		categorized	
		(c) If relevant, consider translating estimates of relative risk into	N/A
		absolute risk for a meaningful time period	
Other analyses	17	Report other analyses done—eg analyses of subgroups and	Yes
		interactions, and sensitivity analyses	
Discussion			
Key results	18	Summarise key results with reference to study objectives	Yes
Limitations	19	Discuss limitations of the study, taking into account sources of	Yes
		potential bias or imprecision. Discuss both direction and	
		magnitude of any potential bias	
Interpretation	20	Give a cautious overall interpretation of results considering	Yes
		objectives, limitations, multiplicity of analyses, results from	
		similar studies, and other relevant evidence	
Generalisability	21	Discuss the generalisability (external validity) of the study results	Yes
Other informati	ion		
Funding	22	Give the source of funding and the role of the funders for the	Yes
1		present study and, if applicable, for the original study on which	
		prosent study and, if applicable, for the offernal study of which	

*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.