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

	Item No.	Recommendation	Page No.	Relevant text from manuscript
Title and abstract	1	(a) Indicate the study's design with a commonly used term in the title or the abstract	1	
		(b) Provide in the abstract an informative and balanced summary of what was done and what was	1	
		found		
Introduction				
Background/rationale	2	Explain the scientific background and rationale for the investigation being reported	3-4	
Objectives	3	State specific objectives, including any prespecified hypotheses	4	
Methods				
Study design	4	Present key elements of study design early in the paper	2	
Setting	5	Describe the setting, locations, and relevant dates, including periods of recruitment, exposure,		
		follow-up, and data collection	4-5	
Participants	6	(a) Cohort study—Give the eligibility criteria, and the sources and methods of selection of	5	
		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		
		(b) Cohort study—For matched studies, give matching criteria and number of exposed and		
		unexposed	Not relevant	
		Case-control study—For matched studies, give matching criteria and the number of controls per		
		case		
Variables	7	Clearly define all outcomes, exposures, predictors, potential confounders, and effect modifiers.	5	
		Give diagnostic criteria, if applicable		
Data sources/	8*	For each variable of interest, give sources of data and details of methods of assessment		
measurement		(measurement). Describe comparability of assessment methods if there is more than one group	5	
Bias	9	Describe any efforts to address potential sources of bias	5	
Study size	10	Explain how the study size was arrived at	5	

Continued on next page

11	Explain how quantitative variables were handled in the analyses. If applicable, describe which	6
11		V
12		6
		6
		Patients with
		missing
		questionnaires
		were not
		included
		(Figure 1)
	(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	
	$(\underline{e})$ Describe any sensitivity analyses	
13*	(a) Report numbers of individuals at each stage of study—eg numbers potentially eligible, examined	5
	for eligibility, confirmed eligible, included in the study, completing follow-up, and analysed	
	(b) Give reasons for non-participation at each stage	Figure 1
	(c) Consider use of a flow diagram	Figure 1
14*	(a) Give characteristics of study participants (eg demographic, clinical, social) and information on	6
	exposures and potential confounders	
		Table 1
	exposures and potential confounders	Table 1 Follow-up is
- '	exposures and potential confounders  (b) Indicate number of participants with missing data for each variable of interest	
•	exposures and potential confounders  (b) Indicate number of participants with missing data for each variable of interest	Follow-up is
-	exposures and potential confounders  (b) Indicate number of participants with missing data for each variable of interest	Follow-up is 90 days for all
15*	exposures and potential confounders  (b) Indicate number of participants with missing data for each variable of interest	Follow-up is 90 days for all participants –
	exposures and potential confounders  (b) Indicate number of participants with missing data for each variable of interest  (c) Cohort study—Summarise follow-up time (eg, average and total amount)	Follow-up is 90 days for all participants – page 7
	12	groupings were chosen and why  (a) Describe all statistical methods, including those used to control for confounding (b) Describe any methods used to examine subgroups and interactions (c) Explain how missing data were addressed  (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 (e) Describe any sensitivity analyses  (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 (b) Give reasons for non-participation at each stage (c) Consider use of a flow diagram

Main results	16	(a) Give unadjusted estimates and, if applicable, confounder-adjusted estimates and their precision	Only
		(eg, 95% confidence interval). Make clear which confounders were adjusted for and why they were	descriptive
		included	statistics were
			applied
		(b) Report category boundaries when continuous variables were categorized	Table 1
		(c) If relevant, consider translating estimates of relative risk into absolute risk for a meaningful time	No relevant
		period	

Continued on next page

Other analyses	17	Report other analyses done—eg analyses of subgroups and interactions, and sensitivity analyses	7 (ref to Appendix)
Discussion			
Key results	18	Summarise key results with reference to study objectives	7
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	10
Interpretation	20	Give a cautious overall interpretation of results considering objectives, limitations, multiplicity of analyses, results from similar studies, and other relevant evidence	10
Generalisability	21	Discuss the generalisability (external validity) of the study results	10
Other informati	ion		
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	6

<sup>\*</sup>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.