STROBE Statement—Checklist of items that should be included in reports of ***cohort studies***

	Item No	Recommendation
Title and abstract	1	*(*a) Indicate the study's design with a commonly used term in the title or the abstract That has been implemented
		(*b*) Provide in the abstract an informative and balanced summary of what was done and what was found That has been implemented
Introduction		
Background/rationale	2	Explain the scientific background and rationale for the investigation being reported That has been implemented
Objectives	3	State specific objectives, including any prespecified hypotheses That has been implemented
Methods		
Study design	4	Present key elements of study design early in the paper That has been implemented
Setting	5	Describe the setting, locations, and relevant dates, including periods of recruitment, exposure, follow-up, and data collection That has been implemented
Participants	6	*(*a) Give the eligibility criteria, and the sources and methods of selection of participants. Describe methods of follow-up That has been implemented
		(*b*) For matched studies, give matching criteria and number of exposed and unexposed *Not relevant*
Variables	7	Clearly define all outcomes, exposures, predictors, potential confounders, and effect modifiers. Give diagnostic criteria, if applicable That has been implemented
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 That has been implemented
Bias	9	Describe any efforts to address potential sources of bias Not relevant
Study size	10	Explain how the study size was arrived at That has been implemented
Quantitative variables	11	Explain how quantitative variables were handled in the analyses. If applicable, describe which groupings were chosen and why That has been implemented
Statistical methods	12	*(*a) Describe all statistical methods, including those used to control for confounding That has been implemented
		(*b*) Describe any methods used to examine subgroups and interactions That has been implemented
		(*c*) Explain how missing data were addressed That has been implemented
		(*d*) If applicable, explain how loss to follow-up was addressed That has been implemented
		(*e*) Describe any sensitivity analyses Not relevant

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 That has been implemented
		(b) Give reasons for non-participation at each stage Not relevant
		(c) Consider use of a flow diagram That has been implemented
Descriptive data	14*	(a) Give characteristics of study participants (eg demographic, clinical, social) and information on exposures and potential confounders That has been implemented
		(b) Indicate number of participants with missing data for each variable of interest Not relevant
		(c) Summarise follow-up time (eg, average and total amount) That has been implemented
Outcome data	15*	Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures over time That has been implemented
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 That has been implemented
		(*b*) Report category boundaries when continuous variables were categorized That has been implemented
		(*c*) If relevant, consider translating estimates of relative risk into absolute risk for a meaningful time period Not relevant
Other analyses	17	Report other analyses done—eg analyses of subgroups and interactions, and sensitivity analyses That has been implemented
Discussion		
Key results	18	Summarise key results with reference to study objectives That has been implemented
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 That has been implemented
Interpretation	20	Give a cautious overall interpretation of results considering objectives, limitations, multiplicity of analyses, results from similar studies, and other relevant evidence That has been implemented
Generalisability	21	Discuss the generalisability (external validity) of the study results That has been implemented
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 No funding - Not relevant

*Give information separately for exposed and unexposed groups.

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 http://www.strobe-statement.org.