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

Item	No	Recommendation	Manuscript
Title and abstract	1	(*a*) Indicate the study's design with a commonly used term in the title or the abstract	cf methods section in the abstract
		(b) Provide in the abstract an informative and balanced summary of what was done and what was found	cf results section in the absract
Introduction			
Background/rationale	2	Explain the scientific background and rationale for the investigation being reported	cf introduction section in the manuscript
Objectives	3	State specific objectives, including any prespecified hypotheses	cf last paragraph of the introduction
Methods			
Study design	4	Present key elements of study design early in the paper	cf Material et Methods section : study population and statistical analysis
Setting	5	Describe the setting, locations, and relevant dates, including periods of recruitment, exposure, follow-up, and data collection	cf Material et Methods section : study population and Data collection and definitions
Participants	6	(*a*) *Cohort study*—Give the eligibility criteria, and the sources and methods of selection of participants. Describe methods of follow-up	cf Material et Methods section : study population
		(*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	NA

		controls per case	
Variables	7	Clearly define all outcomes, exposures, predictors, potential confounders, and effect modifiers. Give diagnostic criteria, if applicable	cf Material et Methods section : Data collection and definitions
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	cf Material et Methods section : Data collection and definitions
Bias	9	Describe any efforts to address potential sources of bias	cf Material et Methods section : statistical analysis
Study size	10	Explain how the study size was arrived at	cf results section : General characteristics at DAA initiation
Quantitative variables	11	Explain how quantitative variables were handled in the analyses. If applicable, describe which groupings were chosen and why	cf Material et Methods section : Data collection and definitions
Statistical methods	12	(*a*) Describe all statistical methods, including those used to control for confounding	cf Material et Methods section : statistical analysis
		(*b*) Describe any methods used to examine subgroups and interactions	cf Material et Methods section : statistical analysis
		(*c*) Explain how missing data were addressed	not shown
		(*d*) *Cohort study*—If applicable, explain how loss to follow-up was addressed *Case-control study*—If applicable, explain how matching	NA

		of cases and controls was addressed *Cross-sectional study*—If applicable, describe analytical methods taking account of sampling strategy	
		(*e*) Describe any sensitivity analyses	not shown
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	cf results section : General characteristics at DAA initiation
		(b) Give reasons for non-participation at each stage	cf results section : General characteristics at DAA initiation
		(c) Consider use of a flow diagram	not enough
Descriptive data	14*	(a) Give characteristics of study participants (eg demographic, clinical, social) and information on exposures and potential confounders	cf table 1
		(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)	NA
Outcome data	15*	*Cohort study*—Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures over time	NA
		Case-control study—Report numbers in each exposure	NA

		category, or summary measures of exposure	
Cross-sectional study—Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures			
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	cf results section
		(*b*) Report category boundaries when continuous variables were categorized	
		(*c*) If relevant, consider translating estimates of relative risk into absolute risk for a meaningful time period	NA
Other analyses	17	Report other analyses done—eg analyses of subgroups and interactions, and sensitivity analyses	cf results section
Discussion			
Key results	18	Summarise key results with reference to study objectives	cf discussion section
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	cf second to last paragraph in the discussion section
Interpretation	20	Give a cautious overall interpretation of results considering objectives, limitations, multiplicity of analyses, results from similar studies, and other relevant evidence	cf discussion section
Generalisability	21	Discuss the generalisability (external validity) of the study results	cf discussion section

Other information		
Funding	22	cf title page

*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.