

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

	Item No	Recommendation
<b>Title and abstract</b>	1-2	(a) Indicate the study's design with a commonly used term in the title or the abstract (b) Provide in the abstract an informative and balanced summary of what was done and what was found
<b>Introduction</b>		
Background/rationale	2-3	Explain the scientific background and rationale for the investigation being reported
<b>Materials and Methods</b>		
Participants	4	(a) <i>Cohort study</i> —Give the eligibility criteria, and the sources and methods of selection of participants. Describe methods of follow-up <i>Case-control study</i> —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 <i>Cross-sectional study</i> —Give the eligibility criteria, and the sources and methods of selection of participants (b) <i>Cohort study</i> —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
Variables	4	Clearly define all outcomes, exposures, predictors, potential confounders, and effect modifiers. Give diagnostic criteria, if applicable
Data sources/ measurement	5	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
Study size	6	Explain how the study size was arrived at

Statistical methods	6	<p>(a) Describe all statistical methods, including those used to control for confounding</p> <p>(b) Describe any methods used to examine subgroups and interactions</p> <p>(c) Explain how missing data were addressed</p> <p>(d) <i>Cohort study</i>—If applicable, explain how loss to follow-up was addressed</p> <p><i>Case-control study</i>—If applicable, explain how matching of cases and controls was addressed</p> <p><i>Cross-sectional study</i>—If applicable, describe analytical methods taking account of sampling strategy</p> <p>(e) Describe any sensitivity analyses</p>
<b>Results</b>		
Participants	6	<p>(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</p> <p>(b) Give reasons for non-participation at each stage</p> <p>(c) Consider use of a flow diagram</p>
Descriptive data	7	<p>(a) Give characteristics of study participants (eg demographic, clinical, social) and information on exposures and potential confounders</p> <p>(b) Indicate number of participants with missing data for each variable of interest</p> <p>(c) <i>Cohort study</i>—Summarise follow-up time (eg, average and total amount)</p>
Outcome data	7-8	<p><i>Cohort study</i>—Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures over time category, or summary measures of exposure</p> <p><i>Cross-sectional study</i>—Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures</p>

Main results	7-8	(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 (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
Other analyses	7-8	Report other analyses done—eg analyses of subgroups and interactions, and sensitivity analyses
<b>Discussion</b>		
Key results	8-9	Summarise key results with reference to study objectives
Limitations	9-10	Discuss limitations of the study, taking into account sources of potential bias or imprecision. Discuss both direction and magnitude of any potential bias
Interpretation	9-10	Give a cautious overall interpretation of results considering objectives, limitations, multiplicity of analyses, results from similar studies, and other relevant evidence
Generalisability	10	Discuss the generalisability (external validity) of the study results
<b>Other information</b>		
Funding	11	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