STROBE Statement—checklist of items that should be included in reports of observational 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 **(within the abstract in page 3 and methods section in page 5)**
		(*b*) Provide in the abstract an informative and balanced summary of what was done and what was found **(see results section of abstract in page 3)**
Introduction		
Background/rationale	2	Explain the scientific background and rationale for the investigation being reported **(see the introduction page 4)**
Objectives	3	State specific objectives, including any prespecified hypotheses **(see the last paragraph of introduction page 5)**
Methods		
Study design	4	Present key elements of study design early in the paper **(see patient cohort page 5)**
Setting	5	Describe the setting, locations, and relevant dates, including periods of recruitment, exposure, follow-up, and data collection **(see materials and methods page 5)**
Participants	6	(*a*) *Cohort study*—Give the eligibility criteria, and the sources and methods of selection of participants. Describe methods of follow-up **(see the patient cohort, treatment protocol and preperative regimens and GVHD prophylaxis pages 5-7)** *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 **(N/A)** *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. Give diagnostic criteria, if applicable **(see definitions and transplant related outcomes page 7)**
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 **(see statistical analysis page 7)**
Bias	9	Describe any efforts to address potential sources of bias **(see statistical analysis page 7)**
Study size	10	Explain how the study size was arrived at **(see statistical analysis page 7)**
Quantitative variables	11	Explain how quantitative variables were handled in the analyses. If applicable, describe which groupings were chosen and why **(see statistical analysis page 7)**
Statistical methods	12	(*a*) Describe all statistical methods, including those used to control for confounding **(see statistical analysis page 7)**
		(*b*) Describe any methods used to examine subgroups and interactions **(see statistical analysis page 7)**
		(*c*) Explain how missing data were addressed **(see statistical analysis page 7)**
		(*d*) *Cohort study*—If applicable, explain how loss to follow-up was addressed **(see statistical analysis page 7)**

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 **(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 analysed **(see results page 8)**
		(b) Give reasons for non-participation at each stage **(see results page 8)**
		(c) Consider use of a flow diagram **(see results page 8)**
Descriptive data	14*	(a) Give characteristics of study participants (eg demographic, clinical, social) and information on exposures and potential confounders **(see results page 8)**
		(b) Indicate number of participants with missing data for each variable of interest **(see results page 8)**
		(c) *Cohort study*—Summarise follow-up time (eg, average and total amount) **(see results page 8)**
Outcome data	15*	*Cohort study*—Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures over time **(see results page 9)**
		Case-control study—Report numbers in each exposure category, or summary measures of exposure **(N/A)**
		Cross-sectional study—Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures **(N/A)**
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 **(see results page 9)**
		(*b*) Report category boundaries when continuous variables were categorized **(see results page 9)**
		(*c*) If relevant, consider translating estimates of relative risk into absolute risk for a meaningful time period **N/A**
Other analyses	17	Report other analyses done—eg analyses of subgroups and interactions, and sensitivity analyses **N/A**
Discussion		
Key results	18	Summarise key results with reference to study objectives **(see discussion page 9)**
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 **(see discussion page 10)**
Interpretation	20	Give a cautious overall interpretation of results considering objectives, limitations, multiplicity of analyses, results from similar studies, and other relevant evidence **(see discussion page 10)**
Generalisability	21	Discuss the generalisability (external validity) of the study results **(see discussion page 10)**
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 **(There was no funding for this study)**

*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.