

The authors declare that the STROBE statement was followed in the article entitled “Circulating MicroRNA Expression and Nonalcoholic Fatty Liver Disease in Adolescents with Severe Obesity”

STROBE Statement – Checklist of items that should be included in reports of cohort

Item No		Description
Title and abstract	1	<p>(a) Indicate the study’s design with a commonly used term in the title or the abstract Page 1 line 1-2</p> <p>(b) Provide in the abstract an informative and balanced summary of what was done and what was found Page 3-4</p>
Introduction		
Background/rationale	2	<p>Explain the scientific background and rationale for the investigation being reported Page 5-6</p>
Objectives	3	<p>State specific objectives Page 6 lines 182-184</p>
Methods		
Study design	4	<p>Present key elements of study design early in the paper Page 6-8</p>
Setting	5	<p>Describe the setting, locations, and relevant dates, including periods of recruitment, exposure, follow-up, and data collection Page 6-8</p>
Participants	6	<p>(a) Give the eligibility criteria, and the sources and methods of selection of participants. Describe methods of follow-up Page 6</p> <p>(b) For matched studies, give matching criteria and number of exposed and unexposed N/A</p>
Variables	7	<p>Clearly define all outcomes, exposures, predictors, potential confounders, and</p>

		effect modifiers. Give diagnostic criteria, if applicable Page 6-8
Data sources/measurement	8	For each variable of interest, give sources of data and details of methods of assessment (measurement). Page 6-8
Bias	9	Describe any efforts to address potential sources of bias Page 7-8
Study size	10	Explain how the study size was arrived at Page 9
Quantitative variables	11	Explain how quantitative variables were handled in the analyses. If applicable, describe which groupings were chosen and why Page 8
Statistical methods	12	(a) Describe all statistical methods, including those used to control for confounding Page 8 (b) Describe any methods used to examine subgroups and interactions Page 8 (c) Explain how missing data were addressed N/a (d) If applicable, explain how loss to follow-up was addressed N/a (e) Describe any sensitivity analyses N/a
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 Page 9 (b) Give reasons for non-participation at each stage N/a

		(c) Consider use of a flow diagram N/a
Descriptive data	14	(a) Give characteristics of study participants (eg demographic, clinical, social) and information on exposures and potential confounders Page 9 Table 1 (b) Indicate number of participants with missing data for each variable of interest N/a (c) Summarize follow-up time (eg, average and total amount) N/a
Outcome data	15	Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures over time. Page 9 Table 1
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 Page 9-11 Figure 1-2 Tables S1-S5 (b) Report category boundaries when continuous variables were categorized N/a (c) If relevant, consider translating estimates of relative risk into absolute risk for a meaningful time period N/a
Other analysis	17	Pathway analysis was performed. Page 11 Table 2-3
Discussion		
Key results	18	Summarize key results with reference to study objectives Page 11-12 Line 344-353
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 Page 15-16 Line 461-473
Interpretation	20	Give a cautious overall interpretation of results considering objectives, limitations, multiplicity of analyses, results from similar studies, and other relevant evidence Page 12-14
Generalisability	21	Discuss the generalisability (external validity) of the study results Page 15-16
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 Page 1-2