

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

	<i>Item No</i>	<i>Recommendation</i>	<i>Page</i>
<i>Title and abstract</i>	1	(a) Indicate the study's design with a commonly used term in the title or the abstract	[1]
		(b) Provide in the abstract an informative and balanced summary of what was done and what was found	[1]
<i>Introduction</i> <i>Background/rationale</i>	2	Explain the scientific background and rationale for the investigation being reported	[2]
<i>Objectives</i>	3	State specific objectives, including any prespecified hypotheses	[2, 3]
<i>Methods</i> <i>Study design</i>	4	Present key elements of study design early in the paper	[3]
<i>Setting</i>	5	Describe the setting, locations, and relevant dates, including periods of recruitment, exposure, follow-up, and data collection	[3]
<i>Participants</i>	6	Give the eligibility criteria and the sources and methods of selection of participants.	[3]
<i>Variables</i>	7	Clearly define all outcomes, exposures, predictors, potential confounders, and effect modifiers.	[3]
<i>Data sources/measurement</i>	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	[3]
<i>Bias</i>	9	Describe any efforts to address potential sources of bias	[3]

<i>Study size</i>	10	Explain how the study size was arrived at	Not applicable
<i>Quantitative variables</i>	11	Explain how quantitative variables were handled in the analyses. If applicable, describe which groupings were chosen and why	[4]
<i>Statistical methods</i>	12	Describe all statistical methods, including those used to control for confounding	[3, 4]
Results <i>Participants</i>	13	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 analyzed	[4]
<i>Descriptive data</i>	14	Give characteristics of study participants (eg demographic, clinical, social) and information on exposures and potential confounders	[4,5]
<i>Outcome data</i>	15	Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures over time	[5]
<i>Main results</i>	16	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	[5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12]
<i>Other analyses</i>	17	Report other analyses done—eg analyses of subgroups and interactions, and sensitivity analyses	[10,11,12]
Discussion <i>Key results</i>	18		[12, 13]

<i>Limitations</i>	19	Summarize key results with reference to study objectives	[12, 13]
<i>Interpretation</i>	20	Discuss limitations of the study, taking into account sources of potential bias or imprecision. Discuss both direction and magnitude of any potential bias	[13]
<i>Generalizability</i>	21	Give a cautious overall interpretation of results considering objectives, limitations, multiplicity of analyses, results from similar studies, and other relevant evidence	
<i>Other information</i>		Discuss the generalizability (external validity) of the study results	[13,14]
<i>Funding</i>	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	[14]