	Item No	Recommendation	Pag No
Title and abstract	1	( <i>a</i> ) Indicate the study's design with a commonly used term in the title or	1
		the abstract	
		(b) Provide in the abstract an informative and balanced summary of what	1
		was done and what was found	
Introduction			
Background/rationale	2	Explain the scientific background and rationale for the investigation being	1-2
		reported	
Objectives	3	State specific objectives, including any prespecified hypotheses	2
Methods			
Study design	4	Present key elements of study design early in the paper	2
Setting	5	Describe the setting, locations, and relevant dates, including periods of	2
		recruitment, exposure, follow-up, and data collection	
Participants	6	( <i>a</i> ) Give the eligibility criteria, and the sources and methods of selection of	2
		participants	
Variables	7	Clearly define all outcomes, exposures, predictors, potential confounders,	2
		and effect modifiers. Give diagnostic criteria, if applicable	
Data sources/	8*	For each variable of interest, give sources of data and details of methods	2
measurement		of assessment (measurement). Describe comparability of assessment	
		methods if there is more than one group	
Bias	9	Describe any efforts to address potential sources of bias	NA
Study size	10	Explain how the study size was arrived at	2
Quantitative variables	11	Explain how quantitative variables were handled in the analyses. If	3
		applicable, describe which groupings were chosen and why	
Statistical methods	12	(a) Describe all statistical methods, including those used to control for	3
		confounding	
		(b) Describe any methods used to examine subgroups and interactions	3
		(c) Explain how missing data were addressed	3
		(d) If applicable, describe analytical methods taking account of sampling	3
		strategy	
		(e) Describe any sensitivity analyses	NA
Results			
Participants	13*	(a) Report numbers of individuals at each stage of study-eg numbers	3
		potentially eligible, examined for eligibility, confirmed eligible, included	
		in the study, completing follow-up, and analysed	
		(b) Give reasons for non-participation at each stage	NA
		(c) Consider use of a flow diagram	3
Descriptive data	14*	(a) Give characteristics of study participants (eg demographic, clinical,	3
		social) and information on exposures and potential confounders	
		(b) Indicate number of participants with missing data for each variable of	3
		interest	
Outcome data	15*	Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures	3
Main results	16	(a) Give unadjusted estimates and, if applicable, confounder-adjusted	5
		estimates and their precision (eg, 95% confidence interval). Make clear	
		which confounders were adjusted for and why they were included	1

STROBE Statement—Checklist of items that should be included in reports of *cross-sectional studies* 

		(b) Report category boundaries when continuous variables were	3-6
		categorized	
		(c) If relevant, consider translating estimates of relative risk into absolute	NA
		risk for a meaningful time period	
Other analyses	17	Report other analyses done-eg analyses of subgroups and interactions,	3-6
		and sensitivity analyses	
Discussion			
Key results	18	Summarise key results with reference to study objectives	6-7
Limitations	19	Discuss limitations of the study, taking into account sources of potential	7-8
		bias or imprecision. Discuss both direction and magnitude of any potential	
		bias	
Interpretation	20	Give a cautious overall interpretation of results considering objectives,	8
		limitations, multiplicity of analyses, results from similar studies, and other	
		relevant evidence	
Generalisability	21	Discuss the generalisability (external validity) of the study results	7
Other information			
Funding	22	Give the source of funding and the role of the funders for the present study	9
		and, if applicable, for the original study on which the present article is	
		based	

\*Give information separately for exposed and unexposed groups.

**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 <a href="http://www.strobe-statement.org">www.strobe-statement.org</a>.

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