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

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|  | Item No | Recommendation | Page No |
| **Title and abstract** | 1 | (*a*) Indicate the study’s design with a commonly used term in the title or the abstract | Title and abstract |
| (*b*) Provide in the abstract an informative and balanced summary of what was done and what was found | Abstract |
| Introduction | | | |
| Background/rationale | 2 | Explain the scientific background and rationale for the investigation being reported | Background  Second last para |
| Objectives | 3 | State specific objectives, including any prespecified hypotheses | Background  Last para |
| Methods | | | |
| Study design | 4 | Present key elements of study design early in the paper | Methods  Para one |
| Setting | 5 | Describe the setting, locations, and relevant dates, including periods of recruitment, exposure, follow-up, and data collection | Methods  Para one - Population |
| Participants | 6 | (*a*) Give the eligibility criteria, and the sources and methods of selection of participants | Methods  Para one - Population |
| Variables | 7 | Clearly define all outcomes, exposures, predictors, potential confounders, and effect modifiers. Give diagnostic criteria, if applicable | Methods  Para one - Tools |
| 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 | Methods  Para one - Tools |
| Bias | 9 | Describe any efforts to address potential sources of bias | Methods  Para one - Population |
| Study size | 10 | Explain how the study size was arrived at | Methods  Para one – Sampling |
| Quantitative variables | 11 | Explain how quantitative variables were handled in the analyses. If applicable, describe which groupings were chosen and why | Methods  Para 2 - Analysis |
| Statistical methods | 12 | (*a*) Describe all statistical methods, including those used to control for confounding | Methods  Para 2 - Analysis |
| (*b*) Describe any methods used to examine subgroups and interactions | NA |
| (*c*) Explain how missing data were addressed | NA |
| (*d*) If applicable, describe analytical methods taking account of sampling strategy | Methods  Para 2 - Analysis |
| (*e*) Describe any sensitivity analyses | NA |
| 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 | Methods  Para 1 -Population |
| (b) Give reasons for non-participation at each stage | NA |
| (c) Consider use of a flow diagram | NA |
| Descriptive data | 14\* | (a) Give characteristics of study participants (eg demographic, clinical, social) and information on exposures and potential confounders | Methods  Para 1 - Population |
| (b) Indicate number of participants with missing data for each variable of interest | NA |
| Outcome data | 15\* | Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures | Findings  Para 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 | Findings  Table 4 |
| (*b*) Report category boundaries when continuous variables were categorized | Findings  Table 3 |
| (*c*) If relevant, consider translating estimates of relative risk into absolute risk for a meaningful time period | NA |
| Other analyses | 17 | Report other analyses done—eg analyses of subgroups and interactions, and sensitivity analyses | NA |
| Discussion | | | |
| Key results | 18 | Summarise key results with reference to study objectives | Discussion para 1 |
| 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 | Strengths and Limitation  Para 1 |
| Interpretation | 20 | Give a cautious overall interpretation of results considering objectives, limitations, multiplicity of analyses, results from similar studies, and other relevant evidence | Discussion  Para 2-8 |
| Generalisability | 21 | Discuss the generalisability (external validity) of the study results | Discussion  Para 2-8 |
| 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 | Methods  Para 1 – Ethics and funding |

\*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 www.strobe-statement.org.