STROBE Statement—Checklist of items that should be included in reports of ***cohort 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 page 2 lines 45-46
		(*b*) Provide in the abstract an informative and balanced summary of what was done and what was found
Introduction		
Background/rationale	2	Explain the scientific background and rationale for the investigation being reported page 2,3 lines 83-103
Objectives	3	State specific objectives, including any prespecified hypotheses page 3 lines 105-111
Methods		
Study design	4	Present key elements of study design early in the paper page 3 lines 115-124
Setting	5	Describe the setting, locations, and relevant dates, including periods of recruitment, exposure, follow-up, and data collection page 3 lines 116-119
Participants	6	(*a*) Give the eligibility criteria, and the sources and methods of selection of participants. Describe methods of follow-up page 3 lines 119-124
		(*b*) For matched studies, give matching criteria and number of exposed and unexposed page 4 lines 134-136
Variables	7	Clearly define all outcomes, exposures, predictors, potential confounders, and effect modifiers. Give diagnostic criteria, if applicable page 4, lines 141-145
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 page 4,lines 132-134
Bias	9	Describe any efforts to address potential sources of bias page 3 lines 116-119
Study size	10	Explain how the study size was arrived at page 4 lines 136-137
Quantitative variables	11	Explain how quantitative variables were handled in the analyses. If applicable, describe which groupings were chosen and why page 4 lines 141-145
Statistical methods	12	(*a*) Describe all statistical methods, including those used to control for confounding
		(*b*) Describe any methods used to examine subgroups and interactions
		(*c*) Explain how missing data were addressed
		(*d*) If applicable, explain how loss to follow-up was addressed
		(*e*) Describe any sensitivity analyses page 4 lines 147-164
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
		(b) Give reasons for non-participation at each stage
		(c) Consider use of a flow diagram Figure 1
Descriptive data	14*	(a) Give characteristics of study participants (eg demographic, clinical, social) and information on exposures and potential confounders
		(b) Indicate number of participants with missing data for each variable of interest
		(c) Summarise follow-up time (eg, average and total amount) page 4,5 lines 167-177;
Outcome data	15*	Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures over time page 4 lines 168-169;
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
		(*b*) Report category boundaries when continuous variables were categorized
		(*c*) If relevant, consider translating estimates of relative risk into absolute risk for a meaningful time period page 5, 6 lines 195-228;

Other analyses	17	Report other analyses done—eg analyses of subgroups and interactions, and sensitivity analyses page 5 lines 191,192, 195;
Discussion		
Key results	18	Summarise key results with reference to study objectives page 6 lines 232-235;
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 7 lines 290
Interpretation	20	Give a cautious overall interpretation of results considering objectives, limitations, multiplicity of analyses, results from similar studies, and other relevant evidence page 8 lines 304
Generalisability	21	Discuss the generalisability (external validity) of the study results page 8 lines 305-310
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 8 lines 325;

*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 http://www.strobe-statement.org.