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

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|  | Item No | Recommendation |
| **Title and abstract** | 1 | 1. Indicate the study’s design with a commonly used term in the title or the abstract   Title |
| 1. 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  Pg. 3 |
| Objectives | 3 | State specific objectives, including any prespecified hypotheses  Pg. 3 |
| Methods | | |
| Study design | 4 | Present key elements of study design early in the paper  Pg. 4-5 |
| Setting | 5 | Describe the setting, locations, and relevant dates, including periods of recruitment, exposure, follow-up, and data collection  Pg. 4-5 |
| Participants | 6 | (*a*) Give the eligibility criteria, and the sources and methods of selection of participants  Pg. 4-5 |
|  |  |  |
| Variables | 7 | Clearly define all outcomes, exposures, predictors, potential confounders, and effect modifiers. Give diagnostic criteria, if applicable  Pg. 4-5 |
| 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  Pg. 4-5 |
| Bias | 9 | Describe any efforts to address potential sources of bias  Pg. 4-5 |
| Study size | 10 | Explain how the study size was arrived at  Pg. 4-5 |
| Quantitative variables | 11 | Explain how quantitative variables were handled in the analyses. If applicable, describe which groupings were chosen and why  Pg. 4-5 |
| 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, describe analytical methods taking account of sampling strategy |
| (*e*) Describe any sensitivity analyses  All on Pg 5. |
| Results | | |
| Participants | 13\* | 1. 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   Pg. 5 |
| (b) Give reasons for non-participation at each stage |
| 1. Consider use of a flow diagram   Pg. 5 |
| Descriptive data | 14\* | 1. Give characteristics of study participants (eg demographic, clinical, social) and information on exposures and potential confounders   Pg. 5-6 |
| (b) Indicate number of participants with missing data for each variable of interest |
| Outcome data | 15\* | Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures  Pg. 5-6 |
| Main results | 16 | 1. 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   Pg. 5-6 |
| (*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 |
| Other analyses | 17 | Report other analyses done—eg analyses of subgroups and interactions, and sensitivity analyses  Pg. 6 |
| Discussion | | |
| Key results | 18 | Summarise key results with reference to study objectives  Pg. 6 |
| 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  Pg. 7 |
| Interpretation | 20 | Give a cautious overall interpretation of results considering objectives, limitations, multiplicity of analyses, results from similar studies, and other relevant evidence  Pg. 6-7 |
| Generalisability | 21 | Discuss the generalisability (external validity) of the study results  Pg. 6-7 |
| 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  Title page |

\*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.