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

Section/item	Item No	Recommendation	Reported on Page Number/Line Number	Reported on Section/Paragraph
Title and abstract	1	(a) Indicate the study's design with a commonly used term in the title or the abstract	Page1/Lines 1–2	Title
		(b) Provide in the abstract an informative and balanced summary of what was done and what was found	Page2–3/Lines 29–66	Abstract/Paragraph1–5
Introduction				
Background/	2	Explain the scientific background and rationale for the investigation being reported	Pages4–5/ Lines 70–115	Introduction/Paragraph1–3
Objectives	3	State specific objectives, including any prespecified hypotheses	Pages4–6/Lines 89–113	Introduction/Paragraph
Methods				
Study design	4	Present key elements of study design early in the paper	Pages6–7/Lines 116–161	Methods/Paragraph 1–3
Setting	5	Describe the setting, locations, and relevant dates, including periods of recruitment, exposure, follow–up, and	Pages6–7/lines118–142	Methods/Paragraph1–2
Participants	6	(a) ***Cohort study***—Give the eligibility criteria, and the sources and methods of selection of participants. Describe methods of follow–up ***Case-control study***—Give the eligibility criteria, and the sources and methods of case ascertainment and control	Pages6–8/lines116–167	Methods/Study Participants/Paragraph 1–4
		(b) ***Cohort study***—For matched studies, give matching criteria and number of exposed and unexposed ***Case-control study***—For matched studies, give matching criteria and the number of controls per case	N/A	N/A
Variables	7	Clearly define all outcomes, exposures, predictors, potential confounders, and effect modifiers. Give	Pages6–8/Lines144–161	Methods Paragraph 2–3
Data sources/	8*	For each variable of interest, give sources of data and details of methods of assessment (measurement).	Pags8–10/Lines168–219	Methods/MRI acquisition/paragraph 1–
Bias	9	Describe any efforts to address potential sources of bias	N/A	N/A
Study size	10	Explain how the study size was arrived at	Pages6–7/Lines 134–	Methods/paragraph 2
Quantitativ	11	Explain how quantitative variables were handled in the analyses. If applicable, describe which groupings	Pages 7–8/ lines144–167	Methods/paragraph 2–4

Statistica l methods	12	(a) Describe all statistical methods, including those used to control for confounding	Pages10–13/Lines 222–	Methods/stat.analysis
		(b) Describe any methods used to examine subgroups and interactions	Pages10/Lines 222–231	Methods/ stat.analysis
		(c) Explain how missing data were addressed	Pages10/Lines 222–225	Methods/stat.analysis
		(d) ***Cohort study***—If applicable, explain how loss to follow–up was addressed ***Case-control study***—If applicable, explain how matching of cases and controls was addressed	Pages10–12/Lines 222–257	Methods/stat.analysis Pragraph1–7
		(e) Describe any sensitivity analyses	Pages11–12/Lines 241–	Methods// stat.analysis
Results				
Participants	13*	(a) Report numbers of individuals at each stage of study—eg numbers potentially eligible, examined for eligibility,	Page12–13/Lines259–292	Results/pragraph1–5
		(b) Give reasons for non–participation at each stage	Page6/Lines 137–142	Methods/Study
		(c) Consider use of a flow diagram	Page7–10/Lines160–210	Methods/Figure1–2
Descriptive data	14*	(a) Give characteristics of study participants (eg demographic, clinical, social) and information on	Page7–8/Lines160–161	Methods/paragraph3
		(b) Indicate number of participants with missing data for each variable of interest	N/A	N/A
		(c) ***Cohort study***—Summarise follow–up time (eg, average and total amount)	N/A	Not cohort study
Outcome data	15*	***Cohort study***—Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures over time	N/A	Not cohort study
		Case-control study—Report numbers in each exposure category, or summary measures of exposure	N/A	Not case–control
		Cross-sectional study—Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures	Pages6/lines 134–142	Methods/Study
Main results	16	(a) Give unadjusted estimates and, if applicable, confounder–adjusted estimates and their precision (eg, 95%	Pages12–13/Lines 260–279	Results/Paragraph 1–3.
		(b) Report category boundaries when continuous variables were categorized	N/A	N/A
		(c) If relevant, consider translating estimates of relative risk into absolute risk for a meaningful time period	N/A	N/A
Other analyses	17	Report other analyses done—eg analyses of subgroups and interactions, and sensitivity analyses	N/A	N/A
Discussion				
Key results	18	Summarise key results with reference to study objectives	Page13–14/Lines 296–	Discussion/Paragraph1
Limitations	19	Discuss limitations of the study, taking into account sources of potential bias or imprecision. Discuss both	Page16/Lines 349–348	Discussion/Paragraph4

Interpretation	20	Give a cautious overall interpretation of results considering objectives, limitations, multiplicity of analyses, results from similar studies, and other relevant evidence	Pages13–16/Lines 296–358	Discussion/Paragraph1–6
Generalisability	21	Discuss the generalisability (external validity) of the study results	Page16/Lines 360–364	Conclusion/Paragraph1
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	Page17/Lines 382–383	Acknowledgments/Funding

*Give information separately for cases and controls in case–control studies and, if applicable, for exposed and unexposed groups in cohort and cross–sectional studies.

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.

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*As the checklist was provided upon initial submission, the page number/line number reported may be changed due to copyediting and may not be referable in the published version. In this case, the section/paragraph may be used as an alternative reference.