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	Page 1, Line 1	Title
		(b) Provide in the abstract an informative and balanced summary of what was done and what was found	Page 2, lines 38 - 50	Abstract
Introduction				
Background/ rationale	2	Explain the scientific background and rationale for the investigation being reported	Page 4, lines 89 - 112	Introduction paragraphs 1 and 2
Objectives	3	State specific objectives, including any prespecified hypotheses	Hypothesis page 4 line	Introduction paragraph 3
Methods				
Study design	4	Present key elements of study design early in the paper	Page 5, Line 126-127	First paragraph of methods
Setting	5	Describe the setting, locations, and relevant dates, including periods of recruitment, exposure, follow-up, and data collection	Page 5 Lines 126 - 136	First two paragraphs of methods
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 selection. Give the rationale for the choice of cases and controls ***Cross-sectional study***—Give the eligibility criteria, and the sources and methods of selection of participants	Page 5, lines 138-142	Third paragraph of methods
		(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	NA, no matching performed	NA, no matching performed
Variables	7	Clearly define all outcomes, exposures, predictors, potential confounders, and effect modifiers. Give diagnostic criteria, if applicable	Page 5, lines 144-152	Fourth paragraph of methods
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 5, lines 144-152	Fourth paragraph of methods
Bias	9	Describe any efforts to address potential sources of bias	Page 5 lines 141-143, lines	Fourth paragraph of
Study size	10	Explain how the study size was arrived at	Cohort study, so all	Third paragraph of
Quantitative variables	11	Explain how quantitative variables were handled in the analyses. If applicable, describe which groupings were chosen and why	NA, no quantitative variables collected	NA, no quantitative variables collected

Statistical methods	12	(a) Describe all statistical methods, including those used to control for confounding	Page 5 and 6, lines	Fifth and sixth paragraph
		(b) Describe any methods used to examine subgroups and interactions	Page 6, lines 165-168	Sixth paragraph of
		(c) Explain how missing data were addressed	Page 5, line 156	Fifth paragraph of
		(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 ***Cross-sectional study***—If applicable, describe analytical methods taking account of sampling strategy	NA, we only wanted to look at the intra-operative CPT codes so no follow up needed	NA, we only wanted to look at the intra-operative CPT codes so no follow up needed
		(e) Describe any sensitivity analyses	NA, we did not do	NA, we did not do
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	Page 7, line 175-177	First paragraph of results
		(b) Give reasons for non-participation at each stage	Page 7 line 175-177	First paragraph of results
		(c) Consider use of a flow diagram	NA, do not think it will be	A, do not think it will be
Descriptive data	14*	(a) Give characteristics of study participants (eg demographic, clinical, social) and information on exposures and potential confounders	Page 7, Lines 177-181	First paragraph of results
		(b) Indicate number of participants with missing data for each variable of interest	NA, no patients missing	NA, no patients missing
		(c) ***Cohort study***—Summarise follow-up time (eg, average and total amount)	NA, no follow up was	NA, no follow up was
Outcome data	15*	***Cohort study***—Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures over time	Page 7 lines182-189	Second and third
		Case-control study—Report numbers in each exposure category, or summary measures of exposure	NA, not a case control	NA, not a case control
		Cross-sectional study—Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures	NA, not cross sectional	NA, not cross sectional
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	Page 7, lines 190-209	Fourth through seventh paragraphs of results
		(b) Report category boundaries when continuous variables were categorized	NA, no continuous	NA, no continuous
		(c) If relevant, consider translating estimates of relative risk into absolute risk for a meaningful time period	NA, we did not calculate	NA, we did not calculate
Other analyses	17	Report other analyses done—eg analyses of subgroups and interactions, and sensitivity analyses	Page 8, lines 215-218 and	Last two paragraphs of
Discussion				
Key results	18	Summarise key results with reference to study objectives	Page 9, lines 229-232	First paragraph of
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 10, lines 290-304	Last paragraph of discussion

Interpretation	20	Give a cautious overall interpretation of results considering objectives, limitations, multiplicity of analyses, results from similar studies, and other relevant evidence	Page 9, lines 232-257	Second and third paragraphs of discussion
Generalisability	21	Discuss the generalisability (external validity) of the study results	Page 10, lines 270-289	Fifth and sixth paragraph
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 12, lines 324-327	Acknowledgments section

*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 copy editing and may not be referable in the published version. In this case, the section/paragraph may be used as an alternative reference.