STROBE Statement—Checklist of items that should be included in reports of ***case-control studies***

| Page | | Item No | Recommendation |
|---|---|---|---|
| Title page | **Title and abstract** | 1 | (*a*) Indicate the study's design with a commonly used term in the title or the abstract |
| 1 | | | (*b*) Provide in the abstract an informative and balanced summary of what was done and what was found |
| | **Introduction** | | |
| 3 | Background/rationale | 2 | Explain the scientific background and rationale for the investigation being reported |
| 4 | Objectives | 3 | State specific objectives, including any prespecified hypotheses |
| | **Methods** | | |
| 5-9 | Study design | 4 | Present key elements of study design early in the paper |
| 5 | Setting | 5 | Describe the setting, locations, and relevant dates, including periods of recruitment, exposure, follow-up, and data collection |
| 7 | Participants | 6 | (*a*) 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 |
| | | | (*b*) For matched studies, give matching criteria and the number of controls per case |
| 6,8-10, Online Supplement | Variables | 7 | Clearly define all outcomes, exposures, predictors, potential confounders, and effect modifiers. Give diagnostic criteria, if applicable |
| 6,8-10, Online Supplement | 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 |
| 6,8-10, Online Suppleme | Bias | 9 | Describe any efforts to address potential sources of bias |
| 8 | Study size | 10 | Explain how the study size was arrived at |
| 8-9, Online Supplement | Quantitative variables | 11 | Explain how quantitative variables were handled in the analyses. If applicable, describe which groupings were chosen and why |
| 10, Online supplement | Statistical methods | 12 | (*a*) Describe all statistical methods, including those used to control for confounding |
| 10 | | | (*b*) Describe any methods used to examine subgroups and interactions |
| Table footnotes | | | (*c*) Explain how missing data were addressed |
| | | | (*d*) If applicable, explain how matching of cases and controls was addressed |
| | | | (*e*) Describe any sensitivity analyses |
| | **Results** | | |
| Online Supplement Figure S1 | 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 |
| Figure S1 | | | (b) Give reasons for non-participation at each stage |

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| | Figure S1 | | | (c) Consider use of a flow diagram |
| | Figure 1,2<br>Table 1-5 | Descriptive data | 14* | (a) Give characteristics of study participants (eg demographic, clinical, social) and information on exposures and potential confounders |
| | Footnotes of all tables | | | (b) Indicate number of participants with missing data for each variable of interest |
| | Tables 3-5 | Outcome data | 15* | Report numbers in each exposure category, or summary measures of exposure |
| | Tables 3-5 | 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 |
| | Tables 3-5 | | | (*b*) Report category boundaries when continuous variables were categorized |
| | Not performed | | | (*c*) If relevant, consider translating estimates of relative risk into absolute risk for a meaningful time period |
| n.a. | Other analyses | 17 | Report other analyses done—eg analyses of subgroups and interactions, and sensitivity analyses | |
| | **Discussion** | | | |
| 13 | Key results | 18 | Summarise key results with reference to study objectives | |
| 14 | 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 | |
| 13, 14 16 | Interpretation | 20 | Give a cautious overall interpretation of results considering objectives, limitations, multiplicity of analyses, results from similar studies, and other relevant evidence | |
| 13 | Generalisability | 21 | Discuss the generalisability (external validity) of the study results | |
| | **Other information** | | | |
| 17 | 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 | |

*Give information separately for cases and controls.

**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.