STROBE statement: Reporting guidelines checklist for cohort, case-control and cross-sectional studies

"A serum protein biomarker panel improves outcome prediction in human traumatic brain injury"

SECTION	ITEM NUMBER	CHECKLIST ITEM	REPORTED ON PAGE NUMBER:
TITLE AND ABSTRACT			
	1a	Indicate the study's design with a commonly used term in the title or the abstract	Abstract (Page 4)
	1b	Provide in the abstract an informative and balanced summary of what was done and what was found	Abstract (Page 4)
INTRODUCTION			
Background and objectives	2	Explain the scientific background and rationale for the investigation being reported	6-8
	3	State specific objectives, including any pre-specified hypotheses	8
METHODS			
Study design	4	Present key elements of study design early in the paper	9
Setting	5	Describe the setting, locations, and relevant dates, including periods of recruitment, exposure, follow-up, and data collection	9-11
Participants	6a	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	9-11
	6b	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 Variables	N/A

SECTION	ITEM NUMBER	CHECKLIST ITEM	REPORTED ON PAGE NUMBER:
Variables	7	Clearly define all outcomes, exposures, predictors, potential confounders, and effect modifiers. Give diagnostic criteria, if applicable	9-13
Data sources/measurements	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.	9-13
Bias	9	Describe any efforts to address potential sources of bias.	13-14, 25-26
Study size	10	Explain how the study size was arrived at	9
Quantitative variables	11	Explain how quantitative variables were handled in the analyses. If applicable, describe which groupings were chosen and why .	9-10, 13-14
Statistical methods	12a	Describe all statistical methods, including those used to control for confounding	13
	12b	Describe any methods used to examine subgroups and interactions	13
	12c	Explain how missing data were addressed	14
	12d	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	N/A
	12e	Describe any sensitivity analyses	
RESULTS			
Participants	13a	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	15
	13b	Give reasons for non-participation at each stage	15
	13c	Consider use of a flow diagram	N/A
Descriptive Data	14a	Give characteristics of study participants (eg demographic, clinical, social) and information on exposures and potential confounders	Table 1, page 15
	14b	Indicate number of participants with missing data for each variable of interest	Table 1, Suppl. Table 1.

SECTION	ITEM NUMBER	CHECKLIST ITEM	REPORTED ON PAGE NUMBER:
	14c	Cohort study—Summarise follow-up time (eg, average and total amount)	Table 1.
Outcome Data	15*	Cohort study—Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures over time Case-control study—Report numbers in each exposure category, or summary measures of exposure Cross-sectional study—Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures	Page 15, Table 1.
Main Results	16a	Give unadjusted estimates and, if applicable, confounder-adjusted estimates and their precision (e.g. 95% confidence interval). Make clear which confounders were adjusted for and why they were included	15-19
	16b	Report category boundaries when continuous variables were categorized	15-19
	16c	If relevant, consider translating estimates of relative risk into absolute risk for a meaningful time period	15-19
	16d	Report results of any adjustments for multiple comparisons	17-19
Other Analyses	17a	Report other analyses done—e.g. analyses of subgroups and interactions, and sensitivity analyses	15-19
	17b	If numerous genetic exposures (genetic variants) were examined, summarize results from all analyses undertaken	N/A
	17c	If detailed results are available elsewhere, state how they can be accessed	15-19, supplementary tables and figs
DISCUSSION			
Key Results	18	Summarise key results with reference to study objectives	20
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	25-26
Interpretation	20	Give a cautious overall interpretation of results considering objectives, limitations, multiplicity of analyses, results from similar studies, and other relevant evidence	20-26
Generalisability	21	Discuss the generalisability (external validity) of the study results Other information	20-25
FUNDING			

SECTION	ITEM NUMBER	CHECKLIST ITEM	REPORTED ON PAGE NUMBER:
	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	27-28

*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.