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

	Item No	Recommendation	Location in study
Title and abstract	1	(*a*) Indicate the study's design with a commonly used term in the title or the abstract	Page 3, lines 56 – 57
		(*b*) Provide in the abstract an informative and balanced summary of what was done and what was found	Page 3
Introduction			
Background/rationale	2	Explain the scientific background and rationale for the investigation being reported	Page 5, lines 80 – 94
Objectives	3	State specific objectives, including any prespecified hypotheses	Page 5, lines 95 – 99
Methods			
Study design	4	Present key elements of study design early in the paper	Pages 6 – 7, lines 102 – 134
Setting	5	Describe the setting, locations, and relevant dates, including periods of recruitment, exposure, follow-up, and data collection	Setting/location: page 6, lines 102 – 106; Relevant dates: page 7, lines 125 – 126; Follow-up: previously describe in reference 4 (mentioned on page 6, line 112) and lines 112 – 114; Data collection: page 6 – 7, lines 112 – 124
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	Eligibility: page 7, lines 125 – 126; Sources/methods: page 6, lines 102 – 106
		(*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	Not applicable
Variables	7	Clearly define all outcomes, exposures, predictors, potential confounders, and effect modifiers. Give diagnostic criteria, if applicable	HIV diagnosis criteria: page 6 – 7, lines 119 – 124; Adequacy of antiretroviral therapy outcomes: page 7, lines 126 – 129;

			Specific outcomes: page 7, lines 129 – 136; Potential predictors: variables collected listed page 6, lines 114 – 119, their possible role in regression analysis on page 7, lines 140 – 143
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 6, lines 102 – 106 and 114 - 119
Bias	9	Describe any efforts to address potential sources of bias	Page 7, lines 140 – 143
Study size	10	Explain how the study size was arrived at	All mother-infants pairs detected during the study period were included (surveillance data)
Quantitative variables	11	Explain how quantitative variables were handled in the analyses. If applicable, describe which groupings were chosen and why	Page 7, lines 135 – 144
Statistical methods	12	(*a*) Describe all statistical methods, including those used to control for confounding	Page 7 , lines 135 – 144
		(*b*) Describe any methods used to examine subgroups and interactions	Page 7, lines 138 – 143
		(*c*) Explain how missing data were addressed	In Methods section: page 7, lines 142 – 144; Missing data (proportions etc.) describes throughout results section and in tables
		(*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	Methods: page 7, lines 142 – 144; Results: children with indeterminate HIV status described on page 8, lines 149 – 151; Results: cases with missing cART information described on page 8, lines 156 – 161
		(*e*) Describe any sensitivity analyses	N/A
Results			
Participants	13*	(a) Report numbers of individuals at each stage of study—eg	Page 8, lines 147 – 155,

		numbers potentially eligible, examined for eligibility, confirmed eligible, included in the study, completing follow-up, and analysed	156 – 161
		(b) Give reasons for non-participation at each stage	N/A
		(c) Consider use of a flow diagram	N/A
Descriptive data	14*	(a) Give characteristics of study participants (eg demographic, clinical, social) and information on exposures and potential confounders	Table 1
		(b) Indicate number of participants with missing data for each variable of interest	Results: children with indeterminate HIV status described on page 8, lines 149 – 151; Results: cases with missing cART information described on page 8, lines 156 – 161
		(c) *Cohort study*—Summarise follow-up time (eg, average and total amount)	N/A
Outcome data	15*	*Cohort study*—Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures over time	Throughout results sections, tables and figures
		Case-control study—Report numbers in each exposure category, or summary measures of exposure	N/A
		Cross-sectional study—Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures	N/A
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	Throughout results section, Table 3
		(*b*) Report category boundaries when continuous variables were categorized	N/A
		© 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	Throughout results section
Discussion			
Key results	18	Summarise key results with reference to study objectives	Page 11 – 12, lines 219 – 238
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 12 – 13, lines 253 – 263
Interpretation	20	Give a cautious overall interpretation of results considering objectives, limitations, multiplicity of analyses, results from similar studies, and other relevant evidence	Page 13, lines 264 – 270
Generalisability	21	Discuss the generalisability (external validity) of the study results	Page 12, lines 239 – 252

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	PHAC, acknowledgment 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.