Supplemental Material to "Study protocol for a multicenter nationwide prospective cohort study to investigate the natural course and clinical outcome in benign liver tumors and cysts in the Netherlands: the BELIVER study"

STROBE Statement—Checklist of items that should be included in reports of ***cohort studies***

	Item No	Recommendation	Line No
Title and abstract	1	(*a*) Indicate the study's design with a commonly used term in the title or the abstract	Title page
		(*b*) Provide in the abstract an informative and balanced summary of what was done and what was found	1-23
Introduction			
Background/rationale	2	Explain the scientific background and rationale for the investigation being reported	38-61
Objectives	3	State specific objectives, including any prespecified hypotheses	62-65
Methods			
Study design	4	Present key elements of study design early in the paper	68-69
Setting	5	Describe the setting, locations, and relevant dates, including periods of recruitment, exposure, follow-up, and data collection	80-81 171-180 195-207
Participants	6	(*a*) Give the eligibility criteria, and the sources and methods of selection of participants. Describe methods of follow-up	76-79 82-88
		(*b*) For matched studies, give matching criteria and number of exposed and unexposed	N/A
Variables	7	Clearly define all outcomes, exposures, predictors, potential confounders, and effect modifiers. Give diagnostic criteria, if applicable	91-123
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	97-123
Bias	9	Describe any efforts to address potential sources of bias	104-108
Study size	10	Explain how the study size was arrived at	149-153
Quantitative variables	11	Explain how quantitative variables were handled in the analyses. If applicable, describe which groupings were chosen and why	154-160
Statistical methods	12	(*a*) Describe all statistical methods, including those used to control for confounding	161-168
		(*b*) Describe any methods used to examine subgroups and interactions	163-165 167-168
		(*c*) Explain how missing data were addressed	N/A
		(*d*) If applicable, explain how loss to follow-up was addressed	N/A
		(*e*) Describe any sensitivity analyses	165-167
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	N/A
		(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	N/A

		(b) Indicate number of participants with missing data for each variable of interest	N/A
		(c) Summarise follow-up time (eg, average and total amount)	N/A
Outcome data	15*	Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures over time	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	N/A
		(*b*) Report category boundaries when continuous variables were categorized	N/A
		(*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	N/A
Discussion			
Key results	18	Summarise key results with reference to study objectives	N/A
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	101-108 126-134 210-217
Interpretation	20	Give a cautious overall interpretation of results considering objectives, limitations, multiplicity of analyses, results from similar studies, and other relevant evidence	N/A
Generalisability	21	Discuss the generalisability (external validity) of the study results	N/A
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	Title Page

*Give information separately for exposed and unexposed groups.

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.