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

	Item No	Recommendation
Title and abstract	1	(a) Indicate the study's design with a commonly used term in the title or the abstract
		(p. 1, title + p. 2, methods section in the abstract)
		(b) Provide in the abstract an informative and balanced summary of what was done
		and what was found (p. 2, methods and results section of the abstract)
Introduction		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Background/rationale	2	Explain the scientific background and rationale for the investigation being reported
		(pp. 3-4)
Objectives	3	State specific objectives, including any prespecified hypotheses (p. 4, second
-		paragraph)
Methods		
Study design	4	Present key elements of study design early in the paper (p. 4, first paragraph of
		the method section)
Setting	5	Describe the setting, locations, and relevant dates, including periods of recruitment,
C		exposure, follow-up, and data collection (p. 4, first paragraph of the method
		section)
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 as certainment 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 (p. 4, last paragraph + p. 5, data collection procedure)
		(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
Variables	7	Clearly define all outcomes, exposures, predictors, potential confounders, and effect
		modifiers. Give diagnostic criteria, if applicable (pp. 5-6, measures)
Data sources/	8*	For each variable of interest, give sources of data and details of methods of
measurement		assessment (measurement). Describe comparability of assessment methods if there
		is more than one group (p. 6, data analysis)
Bias	9	Describe any efforts to address potential sources of bias (p. 4, use of a random
		digit dialling method to address potential sources of bias)
Study size	10	Explain how the study size was arrived at (p. 4, secondary analysis of survey
		data, development of questionnaire is reported elsewhere, see reference 17).
Quantitative variables	11	Explain how quantitative variables were handled in the analyses. If applicable,
		describe which groupings were chosen and why (pp. 5-6, measures + Table 1)
Statistical methods	12	(a) Describe all statistical methods, including those used to control for confounding
		(p. 6, data analysis)
		(b) Describe any methods used to examine subgroups and interactions (p. 6, data
		analysis)
		(c) Explain how missing data were addressed (p. 6, data analysis: missing data
		were low and was not a cause for concern)

addressed Cross-sectional study—If applicable, describe analytical methods taking accouns sampling strategy N/A (c) Describe any sensitivity analyses N/A 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, a analysed (p. 7, first paragraph; this is a secondary analysis of the data and all the response that (a.g., onn-participation) is reported elsewhere, please see reference 17) (b) Give reasons for non-participation at each stage (please see above) (c) Consider use of a flow diagram Descriptive data 14* (a) Give characteristics of study participants (eg demographic, clinical, social) and information on exposures and potential confounders (p. 7, first paragraph) (b) Indicate number of participants with missing data for each variable of interest (Table 2 3) (c) Cohort study—Summarise follow-up time (eg, average and total amount) Outcome data 15* Cohort study—Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures or time Case-control study—Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures (Table 2 3) (b) Report category boundaries when continuous variables were categorized (Note in Table 4 + Table 5 + page 8, first and second paragraph) (b) Indicate number of pericipantic estimates of relative risk into absoluterisk for a meaningful time period Main results 16 (a) Give			(d) Cohort study—If applicable, explain how loss to follow-up was addressed
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*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.