### STROBE 2007 (v4) checklist of items to be included in reports of observational studies in epidemiology*

*Checklist for cohort, case-control, and cross-sectional studies (combined)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section/Topic</th>
<th>Item #</th>
<th>Recommendation</th>
<th>Reported on page #</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Title and abstract</td>
<td>1</td>
<td><em>(a) Indicate the study’s design with a commonly used term in the title or the abstract</em></td>
<td>1, 5</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>(b) Provide in the abstract an informative and balanced summary of what was done and what was found</em></td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Background/rationale</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Explain the scientific background and rationale for the investigation being reported</td>
<td>5-8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objectives</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>State specific objectives, including any pre-specified hypotheses</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methods</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Study design</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Present key elements of study design early in the paper</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Setting</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Describe the setting, locations, and relevant dates, including periods of recruitment, exposure, follow-up, and data collection</td>
<td>8-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participants</td>
<td>6</td>
<td><em>(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</em></td>
<td>8-9</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>(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</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Variables</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Clearly define all outcomes, exposures, predictors, potential confounders, and effect modifiers. Give diagnostic criteria, if applicable</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data sources/measurement</td>
<td>8*</td>
<td>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</td>
<td>9-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bias</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Describe any efforts to address potential sources of bias</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Study size</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Explain how the study size was arrived at</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quantitative variables</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Explain how quantitative variables were handled in the analyses. If applicable, describe which groupings were chosen and why</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statistical methods</td>
<td>12</td>
<td><em>(a) Describe all statistical methods, including those used to control for confounding</em></td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td><em>(b) Describe any methods used to examine subgroups and interactions</em></td>
<td>10</td>
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<td></td>
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<td><em>(c) Explain how missing data were addressed</em></td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Results</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Participants</td>
<td>13*</td>
<td>(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 9</td>
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<td>(b) Give reasons for non-participation at each stage</td>
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<td>(c) Consider use of a flow diagram</td>
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<tr>
<td>Descriptive data</td>
<td>14*</td>
<td>(a) Give characteristics of study participants (eg demographic, clinical, social) and information on exposures and potential confounders 9, 11</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>(b) Indicate number of participants with missing data for each variable of interest 12</td>
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<td>(c) <strong>Cohort study</strong>—Summarise follow-up time (eg, average and total amount)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outcome data</td>
<td>15*</td>
<td><strong>Cohort study</strong>—Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures over time</td>
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<td><strong>Case-control study</strong>—Report numbers in each exposure category, or summary measures of exposure 12-14</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Cross-sectional study</strong>—Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures</td>
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<tr>
<td>Main results</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>(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 12</td>
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<td>(b) Report category boundaries when continuous variables were categorized</td>
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<td>(c) If relevant, consider translating estimates of relative risk into absolute risk for a meaningful time period</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other analyses</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Report other analyses done—eg analyses of subgroups and interactions, and sensitivity analyses 13-14</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Discussion</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Key results</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Summarise key results with reference to study objectives 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Limitations</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>Discuss limitations of the study, taking into account sources of potential bias or imprecision. Discuss both direction and magnitude of any potential bias 16</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpretation</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Give a cautious overall interpretation of results considering objectives, limitations, multiplicity of analyses, results from similar studies, and other relevant evidence 16-17</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Generalisability</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Discuss the generalisability (external validity) of the study results 17</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Other information</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Funding</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>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 18</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*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.*