STROBE Statement—Checklist of items that should be included in reports of ***cohort 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 *Prospective Cohort Study*
		(*b*) Provide in the abstract an informative and balanced summary of what was done and what was found *Done, submitted abstract*
Introduction		
Background/rationale	2	Explain the scientific background and rationale for the investigation being reported *Done, introduction*
Objectives	3	State specific objectives, including any prespecified hypotheses *Done, introduction*
Methods		
Study design	4	Present key elements of study design early in the paper *Done, methods*
Setting	5	Describe the setting, locations, and relevant dates, including periods of recruitment, exposure, follow-up, and data collection *methods-source population and procedure, data collection, and study population*
Participants	6	(*a*) Give the eligibility criteria, and the sources and methods of selection of participants. Describe methods of follow-up *Methods-data collection, study population, and outcomes*
		(*b*) For matched studies, give matching criteria and number of exposed and unexposed *Not applicable*
Variables	7	Clearly define all outcomes, exposures, predictors, potential confounders, and effect modifiers. Give diagnostic criteria, if applicable *Methods-outcomes*
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 *Methods-data collection*
Bias	9	Describe any efforts to address potential sources of bias *Limitations section of the discussion*
Study size	10	Explain how the study size was arrived at *Methods-study population*
Quantitative variables	11	Explain how quantitative variables were handled in the analyses. If applicable, describe which groupings were chosen and why *Methods-statistical analysis*
Statistical methods	12	(*a*) Describe all statistical methods, including those used to control for confounding *Methods-statistical analysis*
		(*b*) Describe any methods used to examine subgroups and interactions *Methods-statistical analysis*
		(*c*) Explain how missing data were addressed *Methods-statistical analysis*
		(*d*) If applicable, explain how loss to follow-up was addressed
		(*e*) Describe any sensitivity analyses

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 *Methods-Study population*
		(b) Give reasons for non-participation at each stage *Methods-Study population*
		(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 *Table 1*
		(b) Indicate number of participants with missing data for each variable of interest
		(c) Summarise follow-up time (eg, average and total amount) *Indicated below Kaplan-Meier curves*
Outcome data	15*	Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures over time *Table 2*
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 *Tables and results section*
		(*b*) Report category boundaries when continuous variables were categorized *na*
		(*c*) If relevant, consider translating estimates of relative risk into absolute risk for a meaningful time period *na*
Other analyses	17	Report other analyses done—eg analyses of subgroups and interactions, and sensitivity analyses *na*
Discussion		
Key results	18	Summarise key results with reference to study objectives *Discussion*
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 *Discussion - limitations*
Interpretation	20	Give a cautious overall interpretation of results considering objectives, limitations, multiplicity of analyses, results from similar studies, and other relevant evidence *Discussion*
Generalisability	21	Discuss the generalisability (external validity) of the study results *Discussion*
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 *NA*

*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.