

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

	Item No	Recommendation	
<b>Title and abstract</b>	1	(a) Indicate the study's design with a commonly used term in the title or the abstract	Page 1 Line 1-2
		(b) Provide in the abstract an informative and balanced summary of what was done and what was found	Page 2 Line 20-44
<b>Introduction</b>			
Background/rationale	2	Explain the scientific background and rationale for the investigation being reported	Page 4 Line 76-98
Objectives	3	State specific objectives, including any prespecified hypotheses	Page 4-5 Line 99-103
<b>Methods</b>			
Study design	4	Present key elements of study design early in the paper	Page 5 Line 106-108
Setting	5	Describe the setting, locations, and relevant dates, including periods of recruitment, exposure, follow-up, and data collection	Page 5-7 Line 119-164
Participants	6	(a) Give the eligibility criteria, and the sources and methods of selection of participants. Describe methods of follow-up	Page 5 Line 112-117
		(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	Page 6-7 Line 143-164
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 5 Line 107-108 Page 7 Line 163-164
Bias	9	Describe any efforts to address potential sources of bias	Page 7 Line 163-164
Study size	10	Explain how the study size was arrived at	All admitted infants were included during the study period
Quantitative variables	11	Explain how quantitative variables were handled in the analyses. If applicable, describe which groupings were chosen and why	Page 5 Line 119-125
Statistical methods	12	(a) Describe all statistical methods, including those used to control for confounding	Page 7 Line 167-177
		(b) Describe any methods used to examine subgroups and interactions	Page 7 Line 173 Table 5
		(c) Explain how missing data were addressed	Page 7 Line 164
		(d) If applicable, explain how loss to follow-up was addressed	N.a.
		(e) Describe any sensitivity analyses	One separate analysis was performed as requested by one of the reviewers, pertaining the infants with a GA > 24+6 weeks

<b>Results</b>			
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	Page 8 Line 187-188 Table 1-2
		(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	Page 8 Line 194-195
		(c) Summarise follow-up time (eg, average and total amount)	Page 6 Line 143-146
Outcome data	15*	Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures over time	Table 3 + 4
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	Page 8 Line 199-200 Table 5, appendix 2
		(b) Report category boundaries when continuous variables were categorized	Page 5, line 120-125 Page 7, line 159-160
		(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	Appendix 4
<b>Discussion</b>			
Key results	18	Summarise key results with reference to study objectives	Page 9 Line 210-215 Page 12 Line 302-309
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 Line 290-297
Interpretation	20	Give a cautious overall interpretation of results considering objectives, limitations, multiplicity of analyses, results from similar studies, and other relevant evidence	Page 12
Generalisability	21	Discuss the generalisability (external validity) of the study results	Page 12 Line 292-299
<b>Other information</b>			
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	Page 3 Line 58-60

\*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>.