Template for Observational Studies-Based on:  
EQUATOR- STROBE

Checklist, please refer to <https://www.equator-network.org/reporting-guidelines/strobe/> for more information. Please mark N/A where the questions are not applicable, however, the study should meet most if not all of the criteria below.

Title

Indicate the study’s design with a commonly used term in the title

Comments:

Abstract

Provide an informative and balanced summary of what was done and what was found

Comments:

Introduction

Background/rationale-Explain the scientific background and rationale for the investigation being reported

Page number:

Comments:

Objectives

State specific objectives, including any prespecified hypotheses

Page number:

Comments:

Methods

Study design-Present key elements of study design early in the paper

Page number:

Comments:

IRB approval

Page number:

Comments:

Setting

Describe the setting, locations, and relevant dates, including periods of recruitment, exposure, follow-up, and data collection

Page number:

Comments:

Participants

Please enter “NA” depending on the study design, only provide page number and comments for the study design that matches the manuscript study design. If non apply please enter NA.

**(a) Cohort study**—Give the eligibility criteria, and the sources and methods of selection of participants. Describe methods of follow-up.

Page number:

Comments:

**(b) 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. For matched studies, give matching criteria and the number of controls per case.

Page number:

Comments:

**(c) Cross-sectional study**—Give the eligibility criteria, and the sources and methods of selection of participants

Page number:

Comments:

Variables

Clearly define all outcomes, exposures, predictors, potential confounders, and effect modifiers. Give diagnostic criteria, if applicable

Page number:

Comments:

Variables

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 number:

Comments:

Quantitative Variables

Explain how quantitative variables were handled in the analyses. If applicable, describe which groupings were chosen and why

Page number:

Comments:

Statistical methods

Describe all statistical methods, including those used to control for confounding

Page number:

Comments:

Missing Data

Explain how missing data were addressed

Page number:

Comments:

Results

Participants-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 analyzed. Give reasons for non-participation at each stage.

Page number:

Comments:

Participants

Give characteristics of study participants (eg demographic, clinical, social) and information on exposures and potential confounders. Indicate number of participants with missing data for each variable of interest

Page numbers/table numbers/graphs

Comments:

Main results

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 numbers/table numbers/graphs

Comments:

Discussion

Key results- Summarize key results with reference to study objectives

Page number:

Comments:

Interpretation

Give a cautious overall interpretation of results considering objectives, limitations, multiplicity of analyses, results from similar studies, and other relevant evidence

Page number:

Comments:

Limitations

Discuss limitations of the study, taking into account sources of potential bias or imprecision. Discuss both direction and magnitude of any potential bias

Page number:

Comments:

Generalizability and future direction/recommendations

Discuss the generalizability (external validity) of the study results, provide recommendations for future studies.

Page number:

Comments:

Funding

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.

Comments:

Any Additional Comments