STROBE statement: Checklist of essential items Version 2 (April 2005)

	Item #	***Cohort***	***Case-control***	***Cross-sectional***
TITLE & ABSTRACT	**1**	(a) Identify the article as a cohort study in the title or the abstract.	(a) Identify the article as a case-control study in the title or the abstract.	(a) Identify the article as a cross-sectional study in the title or the abstract.
		(b) The abstract should be a highly informative structured summary of the article, taking account of all issues in the checklist below.		
INTRODUCTION				
Background / Rationale	**2**	Explain scientific background and rationale for the study.		
Objectives	**3**	State specific objectives and hypotheses.		
METHODS				
Study design	**4**	Present key elements of study design. State purpose of original study, if article is one of several from an ongoing study.		
Setting	**5**	Describe setting, locations and dates defining periods of data collection.		
Participants	**6**	Give eligibility and exclusion criteria, source and methods of selection of participants. If applicable, describe exposed and unexposed separately. Give period of follow-up.	For cases and controls separately, give eligibility and exclusion criteria, source and methods of selection of cases and controls. Give precise diagnostic criteria for cases, and rationale for choice of controls. For matched studies, give matching criteria and number of controls per case.	Give eligibility and exclusion criteria, source and methods of selection of participants.

Variables of interest	**7**	List and clearly define all outcomes, potential predictors and confounders, and predefined subgroups.	List and clearly define all exposures, potential confounders, and predefined subgroups.	List and clearly define all outcomes, potential predictors and confounders, and predefined subgroups.
Measurement	**8**	(a) For each variable of interest give details of methods of assessment.		
		(b) Describe comparability of procedures across groups, if applicable.	(b) Describe comparability of procedures in cases and controls.	(b) Describe comparability of procedures across groups, if applicable.
Bias	**9**	Describe any measures taken to address potential sources of bias.		
Sample size	**10**	Describe rationale for study size, including practical and statistical considerations.		
Statistical methods	**11**	(a) Describe all statistical methods, including those to control for confounding, and how loss to follow-up and missing data were addressed.	(a) Describe all statistical methods including those to control for confounding. Account for matching and missing data.	(a) Describe all statistical methods, including those to control for confounding and account for any design effects and missing data.
		(b) If applicable, describe methods for subgroup analyses and sensitivity analyses.		
Quantitative exposures	**12**	(a) Give a clear explanation of how quantitative exposures are analyzed, e.g. which groupings are chosen, and why. (b) Present results from continuous analyses as well as from grouped analyses, if appropriate.		
Funding	**13**	Give source of funding and role of funder(s) for the present study and, if applicable, the original study on which the present report is based.		

RESULTS				
Participants	**14**	(a) For each group, report the number of potentially eligible individuals, the number examined for eligibility (if known), the number eligible, the number included in the study, the numbers completing follow up, and the number analysed. Report dates defining the follow-up.	(a) For cases and controls separately, report the number of potentially eligible individuals (if known), the number examined for eligibility, the number eligible, the number included in the study, and the number analysed. For matched studies, give distribution of number of controls per case.	(a) Report the number of potentially eligible individuals, the number examined for eligibility (if known), the number eligible, the number included in the study, and the number analysed.
		(b) Give reasons for non-participation at each stage of process. A flow diagram is recommended.		
Descriptive data	**15**	(a) Give baseline characteristics of study participants (e.g. demographic, clinical, social) and information on exposures and potential confounders, by comparison group if applicable. Summarize average and total amount of follow up.	(a) Give characteristics of cases and controls (e.g. demographic, clinical, social) and information on exposures and potential confounders.	(a) Give characteristics of study participants (e.g. demographic, clinical, social) and information on exposures and potential confounders, by comparison group if applicable.
		(b) Indicate for each variable of interest the completeness of the data.		
Outcome data	**16**	Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures over time, for each comparison group (e.g. exposure category) if applicable.	Report numbers of cases and controls for each exposure category.	Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures, for each comparison group (e.g. exposure category) if applicable.

Main results	**17**	(a) Give unadjusted and confounder adjusted measures of association and their precision (e.g. 95% confidence intervals). Make clear which confounders were adjusted for and on what grounds they were included and others were not. (b) If applicable translate relative measures into absolute risk differences.
Other analyses	**18**	Report any other analyses performed, e.g. subgroup analyses and sensitivity analyses.
DISCUSSION		
Key findings	**19**	Summarize key findings with reference to study hypotheses.
Limitations	**20**	Discuss limitations of the study, taking into account sources of potential bias or imprecision, and problems that could arise from multiplicity of analyses, exposures and outcomes.
Generalizability	**21**	Discuss the generalizability (external validity) of the study findings.
Interpretation	**22**	Give a cautious overall interpretation of the results in the context of current evidence and study limitations, paying attention to alternative interpretations.