## STROBE Statement—Checklist of items for reports of case-control studies

√ indicates done; X indicates not done; NA indicates not applicable

| Item No | Recommendation |
|---------|----------------|
| **Title and abstract** | |
| 1 | (a) Indicate the study’s design with a commonly used term in the title or the abstract √ |
| | (b) Provide in the abstract an informative and balanced summary of what was done and what was found √ |
| **Introduction** | |
| 2 | Explain the scientific background and rationale for the investigation being reported √ |
| **Objectives** | |
| 3 | State specific objectives, including any prespecified hypotheses √ |
| **Methods** | |
| 4 | Present key elements of study design early in the paper √ |
| 5 | Describe the setting, locations, and relevant dates, including periods of recruitment, exposure, follow-up, and data collection √ |
| 6 | (a) 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 √ |
| | (b) For matched studies, give matching criteria and the number of controls per case √ |
| 7 | Clearly define all outcomes, exposures, predictors, potential confounders, and effect modifiers. Give diagnostic criteria, if applicable √ |
| 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 √ |
| 9 | Describe any efforts to address potential sources of bias √ |
| 10 | Explain how the study size was arrived at √ |
| **Quantitative variables** | |
| 11 | Explain how quantitative variables were handled in the analyses. If applicable, describe which groupings were chosen and why √ |
| **Statistical methods** | |
| 12 | (a) Describe all statistical methods, including those used to control for confounding √ |
| | (b) Describe any methods used to examine subgroups and interactions √ |
| | (c) Explain how missing data were addressed NA |
| | (d) If applicable, explain how matching of cases and controls was addressed √ |
| | (e) Describe any sensitivity analyses √ |
| **Results** | |
| 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 √ |
| | (b) Give reasons for non-participation at each stage √ |
| | (c) Consider use of a flow diagram √ |
| 14* | (a) Give characteristics of study participants (eg demographic, clinical, social) and information on exposures and potential confounders √ |
| | (b) Indicate number of participants with missing data for each variable of interest NA |
| 15* | Report numbers in each exposure category, or summary measures of exposure √ |
| **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 √ |
| | (b) Report category boundaries when continuous variables were categorized √ |
| | (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—e.g. analyses of subgroups and interactions, and sensitivity analyses | ✓ |
| Discussion | 18 | Summarise key results with reference to study objectives | ✓ |
| 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 | ✓ |
| Interpretation | 20 | Give a cautious overall interpretation of results considering objectives, limitations, multiplicity of analyses, results from similar studies, and other relevant evidence | ✓ |
| Generalisability | 21 | Discuss the generalisability (external validity) of the study results | ✓ |
| Other information | 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 | ✓ |