

# **Additional File 1. STROBE Statement—Checklist of items that should be included in reports of *cross-sectional studies***

**NOTE:** There is no guideline specific to this type of methodological study. Therefore, we have used guidelines for reporting observational research as a proxy to ensure all relevant reporting has been included in the final manuscript. Specifically, we have followed the STROBE statement (for cross sectional studies) as a guide. Given this, we note that certain aspects of our research may not align and therefore, not comply fully with the pre-specified checklist. Nonetheless, key elements of conduct have been reported on fully and transparently within the confines of the manuscript and appendices.

| Item No                  |    |                                                                                                                                                                                      | Reported on Page Number (#)                                                                                                                                                            |
|--------------------------|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Recommendation           |    |                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Title and abstract       | 1  | (a) Indicate the study’s design with a commonly used term in the title or the abstract                                                                                               | Pg. 1 – stated directly in the title                                                                                                                                                   |
|                          |    | (b) Provide in the abstract an informative and balanced summary of what was done and what was found                                                                                  | Pg. 2                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Introduction             |    |                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Background/rationale     | 2  | Explain the scientific background and rationale for the investigation being reported                                                                                                 | Pgs. 4-5                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Objectives               | 3  | State specific objectives, including any prespecified hypotheses                                                                                                                     | Pg. 5                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Methods                  |    |                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Study design             | 4  | Present key elements of study design early in the paper                                                                                                                              | Pg. 6 Methods section                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Setting                  | 5  | Describe the setting, locations, and relevant dates, including periods of recruitment, exposure, follow-up, and data collection                                                      | Pgs. 6-11 Methods details: unit of analysis - rapid review (RR) reports                                                                                                                |
| Participants             | 6  | (a) Give the eligibility criteria, and the sources and methods of selection of participants                                                                                          | Pgs. 6-7 Details on how data set was derived (unit of analysis is the RR). Also, Figure 1 provides information on study flow (included/excluded studies)                               |
| Variables                | 7  | Clearly define all outcomes, exposures, predictors, potential confounders, and effect modifiers. Give diagnostic criteria, if applicable                                             | Pgs. 7-9 – details on modified BRIDGES criteria provide. Information also provided in Tables 1 & 3 and Figures 2 & 3. Also, general study characteristics captured – noted in Table 2. |
| 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 | n/a                                                                                                                                                                                    |

|                        |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|------------------------|-----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Bias                   | 9   | Describe any efforts to address potential sources of bias                                                                                                                                                    | Study limitations referred to on pgs. 20-21.                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Study size             | 10  | Explain how the study size was arrived at                                                                                                                                                                    | Pgs. 6-8                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Quantitative variables | 11  | Explain how quantitative variables were handled in the analyses. If applicable, describe which groupings were chosen and why                                                                                 | Pgs. 10-11                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Statistical methods    | 12  | (a) Describe all statistical methods, including those used to control for confounding                                                                                                                        | Pg. 10-11 describes statistical methods applied. We did not apply statistical methods to control for confounding for this methods study.                                                                                |
|                        |     | (b) Describe any methods used to examine subgroups and interactions                                                                                                                                          | n/a                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|                        |     | (c) Explain how missing data were addressed                                                                                                                                                                  | n/a                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|                        |     | (d) If applicable, describe analytical methods taking account of sampling strategy                                                                                                                           | n/a                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|                        |     | (e) Describe any sensitivity analyses                                                                                                                                                                        | n/a                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <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            | See Results section – pgs. 11-12 and Figure 1 – study flow diagram.                                                                                                                                                     |
|                        |     | (b) Give reasons for non-participation at each stage                                                                                                                                                         | See Figure 1; Results pg. 11-12                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|                        |     | (c) Consider use of a flow diagram                                                                                                                                                                           | See Figure 1                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Descriptive data       | 14* | (a) Give characteristics of study participants (eg demographic, clinical, social) and information on exposures and potential confounders                                                                     | Pg. 11-12; Table 2 (characteristics of included studies)                                                                                                                                                                |
|                        |     | (b) Indicate number of participants with missing data for each variable of interest                                                                                                                          | See Table 3                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Outcome data           | 15* | Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures                                                                                                                                                         | See Table 3 and Figures 2 & 3. Also, Results Section – pgs. 1-16                                                                                                                                                        |
| 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 | For the exploratory analysis only – see page 16 & Table 3 (as reported in the methods section; estimated associations were crude and based on a univariate analysis and therefore, were not adjusted for other factors) |
|                        |     | (b) Report category boundaries when continuous variables were categorized                                                                                                                                    | n/a                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

|                          |    |                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|--------------------------|----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                          |    | (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                                                                             | As per Methods Section – we conducted an exploratory analysis to assess potential differences for items between journal published RRs and non-journal published RRs (See Table 3 for full results) |
| <b>Discussion</b>        |    |                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Key results              | 18 | Summarise key results with reference to study objectives                                                                                                                   | Pgs. 10-16 – Results; Discussion section – key points summarized – pgs. 16-20; Conclusions Pg. 21                                                                                                  |
| 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                 | Pgs. 20-21                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Interpretation           | 20 | Give a cautious overall interpretation of results considering objectives, limitations, multiplicity of analyses, results from similar studies, and other relevant evidence | Pgs. 16-21                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Generalisability         | 21 | Discuss the generalisability (external validity) of the study results                                                                                                      | Pg. 20 – Strengths & Limitations section                                                                                                                                                           |
| <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              | Pg. 22                                                                                                                                                                                             |