**Editor Comments:**

***Authors* reply**: We certainly appreciate for the requests to clarify and make corrections as per the recommended request.

As to the provided directions, we authors would like to notify you that we inserted all of the STROBE Statement checklist of items in the following table. We actually inserted (located) the place where the items are found by indicating sections according to the item numbers, page numbers and lines.

We authors also would like to let you know that the English and grammar errors and mistakes has been corrected as shown in the main manuscript.

STROBE Statement—Checklist of items that should be included in reports of **cross-sectional studies**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Item  No | Recommendation | **Yes** | **No** | **Location** |
| **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 | Yes  Yes |  | Page-1, line -1-2  Page-2; line 1-29  Page -3; line 1-2 |
| **Introduction** | | | | | |
| Background/rationale | 2 | Explain the scientific background and rationale for the investigation being reported | Yes |  | Page 3; lines 5-29  Page 4; lines 1-13 |
| Objectives | 3 | State specific objectives, including any prespecified hypotheses | Yes |  | Page 4; lines 14-18 |
| **Methods** | | | | | |
| Study design | 4 | Present key elements of study design early in the paper | Yes |  | Page 4; line 21 |
| Setting | 5 | Describe the setting, locations, and relevant dates, including periods of recruitment, exposure, follow-up, and data collection | Yes |  | Page 4; lines 22-27 |
| Participants | 6 | (*a*) Give the eligibility criteria, and the sources and methods of selection of participants | Yes |  | Page 5; lines 1-9 |
| Variables | 7 | Clearly define all outcomes, exposures, predictors, potential confounders, and effect modifiers. Give diagnostic criteria, if applicable | Yes |  | Page 5; lines 13-26 |
| 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 | Yes |  | Page 5; lines 16-30 and  Page 6; lines 1-2 |
| Bias | 9 | Describe any efforts to address potential sources of bias | Yes |  | Page 6; lines 4-21 |
| Study size | 10 | Explain how the study size was arrived at | Yes |  | Page 5; lines 8-9 |
| Quantitative variables | 11 | Explain how quantitative variables were handled in the analyses. If applicable, describe which groupings were chosen and why | Yes |  | Page 6; lines 4-15 |
| Statistical methods | 12 | (*a*) Describe all statistical methods, including those used to control for confounding | Yes |  | Page 6; lines 5-12 |
| (*b*) Describe any methods used to examine subgroups and interactions |  | NA |  |
| (*c*) Explain how missing data were addressed |  | NA |  |
| (*d*) If applicable, describe analytical methods taking account of sampling strategy | Yes |  | Page 5; lines 8-9 |
| (*e*) Describe any sensitivity analyses |  | NA |  |
| **Result** | | | | | |
| 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 |  | NA |  |
| (b) Give reasons for non-participation at each stage |  | NA |  |
| (c) Consider use of a flow diagram |  | NA |  |
| Descriptive data | 14\* | (a) Give characteristics of study participants (e. g demographic, clinical, social) and information on exposures and potential confounders | Yes |  | Page 7; 4-11 |
|  |  | (b) Indicate number of participants with missing data for each variable of interest |  | NA |  |
| Outcome data | 15\* | Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures | Yes |  | Page 7; lines 14-20  Page 8; lines 11-16  Page 9; lines 7-12 |
| Main results | 16 | (*a*) Give unadjusted estimates and, if applicable, confounder-adjusted estimates and their precision (e. g, 95% confidence interval). Make clear which confounders were adjusted for and why they were included | Yes |  | Page 7; lines 21-30  Page 8; lines 17-24 |
| (*b*) Report category boundaries when continuous variables were categorized | Yes |  | Page 7; lines 14-17  Page 8; lines 11-14 |
| (*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 |  | NA |  |
| **Discussion** | | | | | |
| Key results | 18 | Summarize key results with reference to study objectives | Yes |  | Page 9; lines 14-18 |
| 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 | Yes |  | Page 12; lines 4-10 |
| Interpretation | 20 | Give a cautious overall interpretation of results considering objectives, limitations, multiplicity of analyses, results from similar studies, and other relevant evidence | Yes |  | Pages 9, 10, 11 and 12 |
| Generalisability | 21 | Discuss the generalisability (external validity) of the study results | Yes |  | Page 12; lines 12-17 |
| **Other information** | | | | | |
| 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 |  | NA | Page 13; line 8 |

\*Give information separately for exposed and unexposed groups.

\*NA –Not applicable

Editor Comments:

1. In accordance with BioMed Central editorial policies (<http://www.biomedcentral.com/> submissions /editorial-policies #standards +of + reporting), could you please ensure your manuscript reporting adheres to STROBE guidelines (https://www.strobe-statement.org/index.php?id=strobe-home) for reporting observational studies. This is so your methodology can be fully evaluated and utilized. Can you please include a completed STROBE checklist as an additional file when submitting your revised manuscript?

Please complete the checklist in full by inserting the page number/paragraph and section of your manuscript which reports the information that meets the criteria of the checklist. For example “Methods, paragraph 2”. If a criterion is not applicable for your particular manuscript/study, we can accept “N/A”.

Please note that checklists completed incorrectly will be returned for revision as we cannot progress your manuscript to peer review until the checklist has been completed.

1. I'm afraid the quality of the English used throughout your manuscript does not currently meet our requirements. We recommend that you ask a native English speaking colleague to help you copyedit the paper. If this is not possible, you may need to use a professional language editing service. Use of an editing service is neither a requirement nor a guarantee of acceptance for publication.