Supplementary table: Checklist for The Reporting of Studies Conducted using Open Access Data (ROAD) guidelines compared to standard guidelines for observational studies.

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| **Item No.** | **Section** | **Standard Guideline** | **ROAD** |
| 1 | Title and Abstract | 1. Indicate the study’s design with a commonly used term in the title or the abstract; 2. Provide an informative and balanced summary of what was done and found in the abstract | ROAD 1.1 c) Avoid using the original data name or acronym in the title as per some data providers' requirements.  ROADA 1.2 d) Mention the original database used in the study within the methods section of the abstract. |
| 2 | Introduction: Background Rationale | Explain the scientific background and rationale for the investigation being reported | Same |
| 3 | Introduction: Objectives | State specific objectives, including any prespecified hypotheses | ROAD 3.1 b) Give a brief about the original dataset used and before stating the aim of your study |
| 4 | Methods: Study Design | Present key elements of study design early in the paper | ROAD 4.1 Describe your study design rather than the original study’s design. |
| 5 | Methods: Linkage: |  | ROAD 5.1 Briefly describe and cite the original dataset in the references and provide a link to it. |
| 6 | Methods: Setting | Describe the setting, locations, and relevant dates including periods of recruitment, exposure, follow-up, and data collection. | ROAD 6.1 Use the original study setting briefly and state if your study was different , providing reasons for any differences in recruitment, exposure, follow-up, and data collection |
| 7 | Methods: Participants | Define eligibility criteria, sources and methods of selection of participants | ROAD 7.1 Briefly describe the original dataset population and cite the study describing the details, then describe your study population and detail the criteria behind selecting your sample.  ROAD 7.2 For studies that use multiple datasets, briefly describe each study and cite the reference for details. |
| 8 | Methods: Variables | Clearly define all outcomes, exposures, predictors, potential confounders, and effect modifiers | ROAD 8.1 State all variables included in your study from the original dataset.  ROAD 8.2 State all outcomes, exposures, predictors, potential confounders, and effect modifiers included from the original dataset |
| 9 | Methods: Data Sources/Measurement | For each variable of interest, give sources of data and details of methods of assessment | Same |
| 10 | Methods: Bias | Describe any efforts to address potential sources of bias | Same |
| 11 | Methods: Study Size | Explain how the study size was arrived at | Not necessary |
| 12 | Methods: Quantitative Variables | Explain how quantitative variables were handled in the analyses | Same |
| 13 | Methods: Statistical Methods | a) Describe all statistical methods, including those used to control for confounding.  b) Describe any methods used to examine subgroups and interactions | Same |
| 14 | Results: Participants | 1. Report the numbers of individuals at each stage of the study eg numbers potentially eligible, examined for eligibility, confirmed eligible, included in the study, completing follow-up, and analysed 2. Give reasons for non-participation at each stage.   Consider use of a flow diagram | Same |
| 15 | Results: Descriptive Data | Provide characteristics of study participants, including the number of participants with missing data for each variable of interest and information on exposures and potential confounders. | Same |
| 16 | Results: Outcome Data | Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures | Same |
| 17 | Results: Main Results | Give unadjusted estimates and, if applicable, confounder-adjusted estimates and their precision | Same |
| 18 | Results: Other Analyses | Report other analyses done | Same |
| 19 | Discussion: Key Results | Summarise key results with reference to study objectives | Same |
| 20 | Discussion: Limitations | Discuss limitations of the study | Discuss the limitation of your study and the limitations of the original data |
| 21 | Discussion: Interpretation | Give a cautious overall interpretation of the findings while considering the goals, restrictions, variety of analyses, outcomes, and other pertinent data. | Same |
| 22 | Discussion: Generalisability | Discuss the generalisability (external validity) of the study results | Same |
| 23 | Other Information: Funding | Give the source of funding and the role of the funders | State your source of funding |
| 24 | Other Information: Accessibility of protocol, raw data, and programming code | N/A | ROAD 24.1 Cite the data repository and any supplementary materials related to the data.  ROAD 24.2 Provide information on how to access any supplementary information such as the study protocol, raw data, or programming code relevant to the study. |
| 25 | Other Information: Authors and acknowledgments | N/A | ROAD 25.1 Acknowledge the original data provider.  ROAD 25.2 Some data providers may require being listed as an author |
| 26 | Other Information: Data access | N/A | Describe how other researchers can access the dataset |