OTHER INFORMATION

22. Funding: Give the source of funding and the role of the funders for the present study and, if

**Explanation**

Some journals require authors to disclose the presence or absence of financial and other conflicts of interest. Several investigations show strong associations between the source of funding and the conclusions of research articles. The conclusions in randomized trials recommended the experimental drug as the drug of choice much more often (odds ratio 5.3) if the trial was funded by for-profit organizations, even after adjustment for the effect size. Other studies document the influence of the tobacco and telecommunication industries on the research they funded. There are also examples of undue influence when the sponsor is governmental or a non-profit organization.

Authors or funders may have conflicts of interest that influence any of the following: the design of the study; choice of exposures, outcomes, statistical methods, and selective publication of outcomes and studies. Consequently, the role of the funders should be described in detail: in what part of the study they took direct responsibility (e.g., design, data collection, analysis, drafting of the manuscript, decision to publish). Other sources of undue influence include employers (e.g., university administrators for academic researchers and government supervisors, especially political appointees, for government researchers), advisory committees, litigants, and special interest groups.