| | 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 | | |
| Background/rationale | 2 | Explain the scientific background and rationale for the investigation being reported |
| Objectives | 3 | State specific objectives, including any prespecified hypotheses |
| Methods | | |
| Study design | 4 | Present key elements of study design early in the paper |
| Setting | 5 | Describe the setting, locations, and relevant dates, including periods of recruitment, |
| | | exposure, follow-up, and data collection |
| Participants | 6 | (a) Give the eligibility criteria, and the sources and methods of selection of |
| | | participants. Describe methods of follow-up |
| | | (b) For matched studies, give matching criteria and number of exposed and |
| | | unexposed |