STROBE Statement—checklist of items that should be included in reports of observational studies

Prevalence and determinants of overweight/obesity among school-aged adolescents in the United Arab Emirates: A cross sectional study of private and public schools

	Item No.	Recommendation	Page No.	Relevant text from manuscript
Title and abstract	1	(*a*) Indicate the study's design with a commonly used term in the title or the abstract	1	See title page and abstract Prevalence and determinants of overweight/obesity among school-aged adolescents in the United Arab Emirates: A cross sectional study of private and public schools
		(*b*) Provide in the abstract an informative and balanced summary of what was done and what was found	2-3	See abstract section
Introduction				
Background/rationale	2	Explain the scientific background and rationale for the investigation being reported	5-7	See background section
Objectives	3	State specific objectives, including any prespecified hypotheses	7	In this study, we explored the epidemiology of overweight and obesity in the total population and compared obesity figures between private and public schools. We also aimed to determine factors that contributed to overweight and obesity in participants including sociodemographic factors (sex, age, nationality, parents' employment and socioeconomic status); school type (public vs. private); and lifestyle factors (F/V consumption, physical activity levels).
Methods				
Study design	4	Present key elements of study design early in the paper	7	We adopted a quantitative correlational design
Setting	5	Describe the setting, locations, and relevant dates, including periods of recruitment, exposure, follow-up, and data collection	7-8	See subjects and methods
Participants	6	(*a*) *Cohort study*—Give the eligibility criteria, and the sources and methods of selection of participants. Describe methods of follow-up		

		Case-control study—Give the eligibility criteria, and the sources and methods of case ascertainment and control selection. Give the rationale for the choice of cases and controls *Cross-sectional study*—Give the eligibility criteria, and the sources and methods of selection of participants	8	
		(*b*) *Cohort study*—For matched studies, give matching criteria and number of exposed and unexposed *Case-control study*—For matched studies, give matching criteria and the number of controls per case	Not relevant	
Variables	7	Clearly define all outcomes, exposures, predictors, potential confounders, and effect modifiers. Give diagnostic criteria, if applicable	9-11	See measurement section (page 9-10), also data analysis section (page 11)
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	*9-10*	Full descriptions of all variables measured provided –under measurement section
Bias	9	Describe any efforts to address potential sources of bias	8-9, 11	We used trained research assistants The same research team collected the data Random selection of school through cluster sampling Multivariate logistic regression (page 11)
Study size	10	Explain how the study size was arrived at	8	See last paragraph of participants and samples

Continued on next page

Quantitative variables	11	Explain how quantitative variables were handled in the analyses. If applicable, describe which groupings were chosen and why	11	Data analysis section
Statistical methods	12	(*a*) Describe all statistical methods, including those used to control for confounding	11	Data analysis section
		(*b*) Describe any methods used to examine subgroups and interactions		
		(*c*) Explain how missing data were addressed	11	Results section, paragraph 1 Missing and incomplete data were eliminated from the analyses.
		(*d*) *Cohort study*—If applicable, explain how loss to follow-up was addressed *Case-control study*—If applicable, explain how matching of cases and controls was addressed *Cross-sectional study*—If applicable, describe analytical methods taking account of sampling strategy	11	
		(*e*) Describe any sensitivity analyses	NA	
Results				
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	11	Results section, paragraph 1
		(b) Give reasons for non-participation at each stage	11	Results section, paragraph 1
		(c) Consider use of a flow diagram	Included as separate file (available online)	Figure 1
Descriptive data	14*	(a) Give characteristics of study participants (eg demographic, clinical, social) and information on exposures and potential confounders	11-12	Participants' characteristics and obesity-related indices Table 1
		(b) Indicate number of participants with missing data for each variable of interest	*NA*	
		(c) *Cohort study*—Summarise follow-up time (eg, average and total amount)	*NA*	

Outcome data	15*	*Cohort study*—Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures over time	*NA*	
		Case-control study—Report numbers in each exposure category, or summary measures of exposure	*NA*	
		Cross-sectional study—Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures	11-17	Results section
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	11-17	Results section
		(*b*) Report category boundaries when continuous variables were categorized	11-17	Results section
		(*c*) If relevant, consider translating estimates of relative risk into absolute risk for a meaningful time period	NA	

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Other analyses	17	Report other analyses done—eg analyses of subgroups and interactions, and sensitivity analyses	NA	
Discussion				
Key results	18	Summarise key results with reference to study objectives	16-20	Discussion section
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	21	See strengths limitation section
Interpretation	20	Give a cautious overall interpretation of results considering objectives, limitations, multiplicity of analyses, results from similar studies, and other relevant evidence	21	See strengths limitation section
Generalisability	21	Discuss the generalisability (external validity) of the study results	21	See strengths limitation section
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	21	This research was funded by the University of Sharjah/Research Institute for Medical and Health Sciences\ Health Promotion Research Group (Grant number 150310)

*Give information separately for cases and controls in case-control studies and, if applicable, for exposed and unexposed groups in cohort and cross-sectional studies.

Note: An Explanation and Elaboration article discusses each checklist item and gives methodological background and published examples of transparent reporting. The STROBE checklist is best used in conjunction with this article (freely available on the Web sites of PLoS Medicine at http://www.plosmedicine.org/, Annals of Internal Medicine at http://www.annals.org/, and Epidemiology at http://www.epidem.com/). Information on the STROBE Initiative is available at www.strobe-statement.org.