

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

Item No.	Recommendation	Page No.	Relevant text from manuscript
Item No.: 1a Recommendation: Indicate study design in title/abstract Page No.: 1 Relevant text: This retrospective observational study included 251 HPV-positive women aged ≥ 30 years.			
Item No.: 1b Recommendation: Provide balanced abstract summary Page No.: 1 Relevant text: Abstract section (Background, Objectives, Methods, Results, Conclusion)			
Item No.: 2 Recommendation: Background/rationale Page No.: 2–3 Relevant text: Persistent infection with HPV is a key factor in cervical carcinogenesis and depends on immune response.			
Item No.: 3 Recommendation: Objectives Page No.: 3 Relevant text: The aim of this study is to evaluate the association between intravaginal <i>Aloe barbadensis</i> use and HPV clearance.			
Item No.: 4 Recommendation: Study design Page No.: 4 Relevant text: Patients were retrospectively evaluated in an observational, non-randomized design.			
Item No.: 5 Recommendation: Setting Page No.: 4 Relevant text: Patients who presented between 01.01.2022 and 30.12.2024 at Selçuk University.			
Item No.: 6a Recommendation: Participants Page No.: 4–5 Relevant text: Inclusion and exclusion criteria sections.			

Item No.: 6b
Recommendation: Matching
Page No.: N/A
Relevant text: Not applicable.

Item No.: 7
Recommendation: Variables
Page No.: 4–5
Relevant text: HPV clearance rates, demographic variables, smoking status, HPV types.

Item No.: 8
Recommendation: Data sources/measurement
Page No.: 4
Relevant text: Data obtained from patient files; HPV-PCR and cytology results.

Item No.: 9
Recommendation: Bias
Page No.: 9
Relevant text: Data based on patient self-reports; limitations acknowledged.

Item No.: 10
Recommendation: Study size
Page No.: 4
Relevant text: A total of 251 patients were included.

Item No.: 11
Recommendation: Quantitative variables
Page No.: 6
Relevant text: Normal distribution assessed using ± 1.96 skewness/kurtosis.

Item No.: 12a
Recommendation: Statistical methods
Page No.: 6
Relevant text: Chi-square and Independent Sample T Test used.

Item No.: 12b
Recommendation: Subgroup analyses
Page No.: 7
Relevant text: Subgroup analyses based on smoking status and HPV genotype.

Item No.: 12c
Recommendation: Missing data
Page No.: 5
Relevant text: Patients with incomplete data were excluded.

Item No.: 12d
Recommendation: Follow-up handling
Page No.: 9
Relevant text: One-year follow-up limitation acknowledged.

Item No.: 12e
Recommendation: Sensitivity analysis
Page No.: 7
Relevant text: Adjusted analyses not performed due to retrospective design.

Item No.: 13a
Recommendation: Participants numbers
Page No.: 4
Relevant text: 251 patients; 164 treatment, 87 control.

Item No.: 13b
Recommendation: Non-participation
Page No.: 5
Relevant text: Exclusion criteria described.

Item No.: 13c
Recommendation: Flow diagram
Page No.: N/A
Relevant text: Not provided.

Item No.: 14a
Recommendation: Descriptive data
Page No.: 7
Relevant text: Mean age 47.3±2.3 years; comorbidities described.

Item No.: 14b
Recommendation: Missing data
Page No.: 5
Relevant text: Incomplete data cases excluded.

Item No.: 14c
Recommendation: Follow-up time
Page No.: 4
Relevant text: One-year follow-up period.

Item No.: 15
Recommendation: Outcome data
Page No.: 7
Relevant text: HPV clearance: 45.7% vs 36.8%.

Item No.: 16a
Recommendation: Main results
Page No.: 7
Relevant text: No statistically significant difference ($p = 0.219$).

Item No.: 16b
Recommendation: Category boundaries
Page No.: 7
Relevant text: HPV types categorized as HPV 16, HPV 18, others.

Item No.: 16c
Recommendation: Absolute risk
Page No.: 7
Relevant text: Percentages of HPV clearance reported.

Item No.: 17
Recommendation: Other analyses
Page No.: 7
Relevant text: Smoking subgroup analyses and HPV type comparisons.

Item No.: 18
Recommendation: Key results
Page No.: 8
Relevant text: No significant improvement in HPV clearance observed.

Item No.: 19
Recommendation: Limitations
Page No.: 9
Relevant text: Limitations section.

Item No.: 20

Recommendation: Interpretation

Page No.: 8–9

Relevant text: Results interpreted cautiously considering study limitations.

Item No.: 21

Recommendation: Generalisability

Page No.: 9

Relevant text: Results should be interpreted cautiously.

Item No.: 22

Recommendation: Funding

Page No.: 10

Relevant text: There was no funding.

*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.