

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

	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	01	This retrospective observational study included 251 HPV-positive women aged ≥ 30 years.
		(b) Provide in the abstract an informative and balanced summary of what was done and what was found	01	Abstract section (Background, Objectives, Methods, Results, Conclusion)
Introduction				
Background/rationale	2	Explain the scientific background and rationale for the investigation being reported	02-03	Persistent infection with HPV is a key factor in cervical carcinogenesis and depends on immune response.
Objectives	3	State specific objectives, including any prespecified hypotheses	03	The aim of this study is to evaluate the association between intravaginal <i>Aloe barbadensis</i> use and HPV clearance.
Methods				
Study design	4	Present key elements of study design early in the paper	04	Patients were retrospectively evaluated in an observational, non-randomized design.
Setting	5	Describe the setting, locations, and relevant dates, including periods of recruitment, exposure, follow-up, and data collection	04	Patients who presented between 01.01.2022 and 30.12.2024 at Selçuk University.
Participants	6	(a) <i>Cohort study</i> —Give the eligibility criteria, and the sources and methods of selection of participants. Describe methods of follow-up <i>Case-control study</i> —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 <i>Cross-sectional study</i> —Give the eligibility criteria, and the sources and methods of selection of participants	04-05	Inclusion and exclusion criteria sections.
		(b) <i>Cohort study</i> —For matched studies, give matching criteria and number of exposed and unexposed <i>Case-control study</i> —For matched studies, give matching criteria and the number of controls per case	-	N/A
Variables	7	Clearly define all outcomes, exposures, predictors, potential confounders, and effect modifiers. Give diagnostic criteria, if applicable	04-05	HPV clearance rates, demographic variables, smoking status, HPV types.
Data sources/	8*	For each variable of interest, give sources of data and details of methods of assessment	04	Data obtained from patient files;

measurement		(measurement). Describe comparability of assessment methods if there is more than one group		HPV-PCR and cytology results.
Bias	9	Describe any efforts to address potential sources of bias	09	Data based on patient self-reports; limitations acknowledged.
Study size	10	Explain how the study size was arrived at	04	A total of 251 patients were included.

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Quantitative variables	11	Explain how quantitative variables were handled in the analyses. If applicable, describe which groupings were chosen and why	06	Normal distribution assessed using ± 1.96 skewness/kurtosis.
Statistical methods	12	(a) Describe all statistical methods, including those used to control for confounding	06	Chi-square and Independent Sample T Test used.
		(b) Describe any methods used to examine subgroups and interactions	07	Subgroup analyses based on smoking status and HPV genotype.
		(c) Explain how missing data were addressed	05	Patients with incomplete data were excluded.
		(d) <i>Cohort study</i> —If applicable, explain how loss to follow-up was addressed <i>Case-control study</i> —If applicable, explain how matching of cases and controls was addressed <i>Cross-sectional study</i> —If applicable, describe analytical methods taking account of sampling strategy	09	One-year follow-up limitation acknowledged.
		(e) Describe any sensitivity analyses	07	Adjusted analyses not performed due to retrospective design.
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	04	251 patients; 164 treatment, 87 control.
		(b) Give reasons for non-participation at each stage	05	Exclusion criteria described.
		(c) Consider use of a flow diagram	-	N/A
Descriptive data	14*	(a) Give characteristics of study participants (eg demographic, clinical, social) and information on exposures and potential confounders	07	Mean age 47.3 \pm 2.3 years; comorbidities described.
		(b) Indicate number of participants with missing data for each variable of interest	05	Incomplete data cases excluded.
		(c) <i>Cohort study</i> —Summarise follow-up time (eg, average and total amount)	04	One-year follow-up period.
Outcome data	15*	<i>Cohort study</i> —Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures over time	07	HPV clearance: 45.7% vs 36.8%.
		<i>Case-control study</i> —Report numbers in each exposure category, or summary measures of exposure		
		<i>Cross-sectional study</i> —Report numbers of outcome events or summary measures		
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	07	No statistically significant difference (p = 0.219).
		(b) Report category boundaries when continuous variables were categorized	07	HPV types categorized as HPV 16, HPV 18 and others.
		(c) If relevant, consider translating estimates of relative risk into absolute risk for a meaningful time period	07	Percentages of HPV clearance reported.

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Other analyses	17	Report other analyses done—eg analyses of subgroups and interactions, and sensitivity analyses	07	Smoking subgroup analyses and HPV type comparisons.
Discussion				
Key results	18	Summarise key results with reference to study objectives	08	No significant improvement in HPV clearance was observed.
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	09	Limitations section.
Interpretation	20	Give a cautious overall interpretation of results considering objectives, limitations, multiplicity of analyses, results from similar studies, and other relevant evidence	08-09	Results interpreted cautiously considering study limitations.
Generalisability	21	Discuss the generalisability (external validity) of the study results	09	Results should be interpreted cautiously.
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	10	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.