



Consistency of Published Observational/Real-World Studies With the STROBE Guidelines: An Analysis of 3 Indications

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Objective

To assess the transparency of reported data from observational/real-world studies via a targeted literature review, by evaluating published articles using the STROBE guidelines/checklist

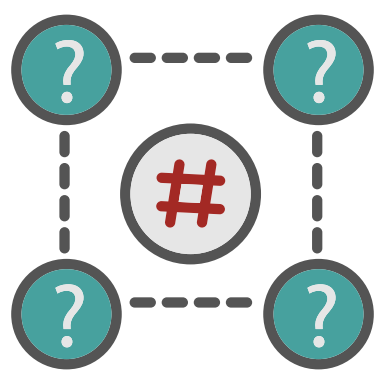
Background



As acknowledged by the ISPOR/ISPE task force and ISMPP guidelines, improving transparency in reporting real-world data is essential



The STROBE (STrengthening the Reporting of OBservational studies in Epidemiology) reporting guidelines and checklist provide a blueprint for the elements that should ideally be included in articles reporting observational studies



However, compliance of published observational studies with the STROBE reporting guidelines is unknown

Conclusions

- Our review identified **frequent transparency deficiencies** in the Methods and Results sections of peer-reviewed articles reporting observational studies across selected indications, with no significant differences over time or between indications
- These results highlight the **need for improved adherence to reporting guidelines** in real-world data publications
- Transparent reporting of real-world data benefits research by enhancing **credibility and reproducibility**, and also helps ensure that the data driving health decision-making are **robust and relevant** to real-world healthcare systems

Methods

- We performed an Embase search to identify articles reporting observational data in 3 indications in the fields of dermatology, oncology, and genetic pulmonary disease
- Articles from 2017, 2020, and 2023 were selected to explore longitudinal changes in reporting transparency
- Articles were scored 1 (yes), 0 (no), or 'not applicable' for the presence of each of the 34 STROBE checklist items/sub-items
- Scores (range 0–1) were calculated per article and per article section as the proportions of applicable checklist items (score = 1)
- Non - parametric Kruskal-Wallis tests were used to compare mean scores between years and indications
- For further details on the methodology / results, please check the e-poster via the QR code

Results

