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Appendix

Authors: These minimum items of information are needed by our referees and Editors to evaluate your manuscript. Additional information may be appropriate, depending on your study design and objectives.

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h. Descriptions of the formal random mechanism (e.g., lottery or table of random numbers) and the list frame (enumerating every eligible subject and/or cluster) used at any step claimed to be "random"
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b. Descriptions of (and justifications for) all choices of **distributions and their parameter Values**
c. Description of numbers, training, experience, and representativeness of any **"experts"** used to provide opinions
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5. For **statistical-hypothesis tests:**

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b. **Alpha** and **tails**, and any methods used to adjust for multiple comparisons (to protect experiment-wise alpha from the problem of **multiplicity**)c. **Methods used to adjust for clustering within the data**
d. Methods used to determine that the **statistical assumptions were met** (e.g., that the data were Gaussian or that the odds ratio or hazards ratio was constant across the observed range of the risk factor)e. Methods used to look for **collinearities** or other interrelationships among the risk factors being testedf. Methods used to select or to retain risk factors within multivariable models (including the **test criterion**)g. Clear declaration of any variables "forced into" the model (not allowed to drop out; this implies a need to account for that factor) or offered to the model on a priori grounds despite any screening results (this implies that the factor was part of a major hypothesis)h. Description of the **goodness-of-fit** of any models
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