

PRE-SUBMISSION CHECKLIST

- ☐ Cover letter is a separate file and addresses any potential overlap with existing publications, relevant disclosures from the authors, and any other special circumstances that may apply.
- ☐ Title page is a separate file and includes all authors and their affiliations and disclosures including all sources of support and potential conflicts of interest. Prior presentations mentioned.
- ☐ Main document does not identify the authors in any way (blinded file).
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- ☐ All abbreviations are defined at first mention in the abstract and main text.
- ☐ All abbreviations and symbols are explained in the table footnotes / figure legends.
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- ☐ Study design, location, dates, outcomes, and data analyses are clearly described in methods.
- ☐ Ethical statements regarding IRB review, consent, approval are mentioned in methods.
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