**Checklist for items in** **STRICTA 2010**

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| **Item**  | **Detail**  | **Page number** |
| **1. Acupuncture rationale**           [(Explanations and examples)](http://www.stricta.info/explanations%20item%201.htm)  | 1a) Style of acupuncture (e.g. Traditional Chinese Medicine, Japanese, Korean, Western medical, Five Element, ear acupuncture, etc)  | Methods |
| 1b) Reasoning for treatment provided, based on historical context, literature sources, and/or consensus methods, with references where appropriate  | Introduction |
| 1c) Extent to which treatment was varied  | N/A |
| **2. Details of needling**    [(Explanations and examples)](http://www.stricta.info/explanations_item_2.htm) | 2a) Number of needle insertions per subject per session (mean and range where relevant)  | Methods |
| 2b) Names (or location if no standard name) of points used (uni/bilateral)  | Methods |
| 2c) Depth of insertion, based on a specified unit of measurement, or on a particular tissue level  | Methods |
| 2d) Response sought (e.g. *de qi* or muscle twitch response)  | Methods |
| 2e) Needle stimulation (e.g. manual, electrical)  | Methods |
| 2f) Needle retention time  | Methods |
| 2g) Needle type (diameter, length, and manufacturer or material)  | Methods |
| **3. Treatment regimen**      [(Explanations and examples)](http://www.stricta.info/explanations_item_3.htm)  | 3a) Number of treatment sessions  | N/A |
| 3b) Frequency and duration of treatment sessions  | N/A |
| **4. Other components of treatment**      [(Explanations and examples)](http://www.stricta.info/explanations_item_4.htm)  | 4a) Details of other interventions administered to the acupuncture group (e.g. moxibustion, cupping, herbs, exercises, lifestyle advice)  | N/A |
| 4b) Setting and context of treatment, including instructions to practitioners, and information and explanations to patients  | N/A |
| **5. Practitioner background**    [(Explanations and examples)](http://www.stricta.info/explanations_item_5.htm) | 5) Description of participating acupuncturists (qualification or professional affiliation, years in acupuncture practice, other relevant experience)  | Methods |
| **6. Control or comparator interventions**    [(Explanations and examples)](http://www.stricta.info/explanations_item_6.htm) | 6a) Rationale for the control or comparator in the context of the research question, with sources that justify this choice  | Methods and Limitations |
| 6b) Precise description of the control or comparator. If sham acupuncture or any other type of acupuncture-like control is used, provide details as for Items 1 to 3 above. | Methods |

Note: This checklist, which should be read in conjunction with the explanations of the STRICTA items, is designed to replace [CONSORT 2010’s item 5](http://www.consort-statement.org/consort-statement/3-12---methods/item5_interventions/) when reporting an acupuncture trial.