



CARE Checklist – 2016: Information for writing a case report

Topic	Item	Checklist item description	Line/Page
Title	1	The words "case report" should be in the title along with the area of focus	5/1
Key Words	2	Four to seven key words—include "case report" as one of the key words	22/3
Abstract	3a	Background: What does this case report add to the medical literature?	25/2
	3b	Case summary: chief complaint, diagnoses, interventions, and outcomes	5/2
	3c	Conclusion: What is the main "take-away" lesson from this case?	19/3
Introduction	4	The current standard of care and contributions of this case—with references (1-2 paragraphs)	16/4
Timeline	5	Information from this case report organized into a timeline (table or figure)	13-19/2
Patient Information	6a	De-identified demographic and other patient or client specific information	22/4
	6b	Chief complaint—what prompted this visit?	16/14
	6c	Relevant history including past interventions and outcomes	26/16
Physical Exam	7	Relevant physical examination findings	4/18
Diagnostic Assessment	8a	Evaluations such as surveys, laboratory testing, imaging, etc.	19/6
	8b	Diagnostic reasoning including other diagnoses considered and challenges	16/6
	8c	Consider tables or figures linking assessment, diagnoses and interventions	24/9 12/20 1/21
	8d	Prognostic characteristics where applicable	23/9
Interventions	9a	Types such as life-style recommendations, treatments, medications, surgery	6-16/9
	9b	Intervention administration such as dosage, frequency and duration	9/9
	9c	Note changes in intervention with explanation	15/9
	9d	Other concurrent interventions	—
Follow-up and Outcomes	10a	Clinician assessment (and patient or client assessed outcomes when appropriate)	23-24/9
	10b	Important follow-up diagnostic evaluations	8/7
	10c	Assessment of intervention adherence and tolerability, including adverse events	7-9/7
Discussion	11a	Strengths and limitations in your approach to this case	3/14
	11b	Specify how this case report informs practice or Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPG)	7-8/14
	11c	How does this case report suggest a testable hypothesis?	19/12
	11d	Conclusions and rationale	12/20 26/12
Patient Perspective	12	When appropriate include the assessment of the patient or client on this episode of care	21/12
Informed Consent	13	Informed consent from the person who is the subject of this case report is required by most journals	19/1
Additional Information	14	Acknowledgement section; Competing Interests; IRB approval when required	—

