



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