



CARE Checklist – 2016: Information to consider when writing a case report

LINE / PAGE

Topic	Item	Checklist item description	
Title	1	The words "case report" should be in the title along with the area of focus	0 / 1
	2	Four to seven key words—including "case report" as a key word	23-24 / 2
Abstract	3a	Background: What does this case report add to the medical literature	2-4 / 3
	3b	Case summary (1 paragraph): chief complaint, diagnoses, interventions, and outcomes	10-17 / 3
	3c	Conclusion: What are the main "take-away" lessons from this case?	20-21 / 3
Introduction	4	How does this case inform healthcare delivery—with references (1-2 paragraphs)	3-32 / 5 1-3 / 6
Timeline	5	Relevant information from this case report organized into a timeline (table or figure)	—
Patient Information	6a	De-identified demographic and other patient specific information	7-13 / 6
	6b	Chief complaint (what prompted this patient visit)	7-15 / 6
	6c	Relevant medical and psychosocial history (including interventions and outcomes)	17-31 / 6 1-6 / 7
Physical Exam	7	Relevant physical examination findings	8-14 / 7
Diagnostic Assessment	8a	Diagnostic evaluations (such as laboratory testing, imaging, surveys)	17-24 / 7
	8b	Diagnoses (consider tables/figures linking assessment with diagnoses and interventions)	14-21 / 7
	8c	Diagnostic reasoning including other diagnoses considered and diagnostic challenges	1-9 / 8
	8d	Prognostic characteristics (such as staging in oncology) where applicable	—
Interventions	9a	Types of intervention (such as pharmacologic, surgical, preventive, self-care)	15-19 / 8
	9b	Intervention administration (such as dosage, strength, duration)	—
	9c	Changes in intervention (with rationale)	—
	9d	Other concurrent interventions	—
Follow-up and Outcomes	10a	Clinician and patient-assessed outcomes (when appropriate)	22 / 8
	10b	Important follow-up diagnostic evaluations	22 / 8
	10c	Assessment of intervention adherence and tolerability	18-19 / 8
	10d	Adverse and unanticipated events	22 / 8
Discussion	11a	Strengths and limitations in your approach to this case—with references	0
	11b	Conclusions and rationale (including possible causes for outcomes)	9-11 / 10
Patient Perspective	12	When appropriate include the patient's perspective on this episode of care	0
Informed Consent	13	Patient informed consent is likely to be required by a journal (or your institution) prior to publication	0
Other	14	IRB approval as indicated or needed; Acknowledgement section; Competing Interests; Funding	2-6 / 13