



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	Page1
Key Words	2	Four to seven key words—include “case report” as one of the key words	Page2
Abstract	3a	Background: What does this case report add to the medical literature?	Page1 to Page2
	3b	Case summary: chief complaint, diagnoses, interventions, and outcomes	Page2
	3c	Conclusion: What is the main “take-away” lesson from this case?	Page2
Introduction	4	The current standard of care and contributions of this case—with references (1-2 paragraphs)	Page2 to Page3
Timeline	5	Information from this case report organized into a timeline (table or figure)	N/A
Patient Information	6a	De-identified demographic and other patient or client specific information	Page3
	6b	Chief complaint—what prompted this visit?	Page3
	6c	Relevant history including past interventions and outcomes	Page3 to Page4
Physical Exam	7	Relevant physical examination findings	Page4
Diagnostic Assessment	8a	Evaluations such as surveys, laboratory testing, imaging, etc.	Page4 to Page5
	8b	Diagnostic reasoning including other diagnoses considered and challenges	Page5
	8c	Consider tables or figures linking assessment, diagnoses and interventions	N/A
	8d	Prognostic characteristics where applicable	N/A
Interventions	9a	Types such as life-style recommendations, treatments, medications, surgery	Page5
	9b	Intervention administration such as dosage, frequency and duration	N/A
	9c	Note changes in intervention with explanation	N/A
	9d	Other concurrent interventions	N/A
Follow-up and Outcomes	10a	Clinician assessment (and patient or client assessed outcomes when appropriate)	N/A
	10b	Important follow-up diagnostic evaluations	Page5
	10c	Assessment of intervention adherence and tolerability, including adverse events	N/A
Discussion	11a	Strengths and limitations in your approach to this case	Page8
	11b	Specify how this case report informs practice or Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPG)	Page9
	11c	How does this case report suggest a testable hypothesis?	N/A
	11d	Conclusions and rationale	Page9
Patient Perspective	12	When appropriate include the assessment of the patient or client on this episode of care	N/A
Informed Consent	13	Informed consent from the person who is the subject of this case report is required by most journals	Page10
Additional Information	14	Acknowledgement section; Competing Interests; IRB approval when required	Page10