



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, 2/P ₁
Key Words	2	Four to seven key words—include "case report" as one of the key words	21-22/P ₁
Abstract	3a	Background: What does this case report add to the medical literature?	5-10/P ₁
	3b	Case summary: chief complaint, diagnoses, interventions, and outcomes	11-15/P ₁
	3c	Conclusion: What is the main "take-away" lesson from this case?	16-20/P ₁
Introduction	4	The current standard of care and contributions of this case—with references (1-2 paragraphs)	26-28/P ₁
Timeline	5	Information from this case report organized into a timeline (table or figure)	26-30/P ₁
Patient Information	6a	De-identified demographic and other patient or client specific information	3-6/P ₂
	6b	Chief complaint—what prompted this visit?	9-14/P ₂
	6c	Relevant history including past interventions and outcomes	
Physical Exam	7	Relevant physical examination findings	22-24/P ₂
Diagnostic Assessment	8a	Evaluations such as surveys, laboratory testing, imaging, etc	26-29/P ₂
	8b	Diagnostic reasoning including other diagnoses considered and challenges	32-33/P ₂
	8c	Consider tables or figures linking assessment, diagnoses and interventions	33-38/P ₂
	8d	Prognostic characteristics where applicable	4-12/P ₃
Interventions	9a	Types such as life-style recommendations, treatments, medications, surgery	1-2/P ₃
	9b	Intervention administration such as dosage, frequency and duration	1-2/P ₃
	9c	Note changes in intervention with explanation	1-2/P ₃
	9d	Other concurrent interventions	34-36/P ₄
Follow-up and Outcomes	10a	Clinician assessment (and patient or client assessed outcomes when appropriate)	17-19/P ₃
	10b	Important follow-up diagnostic evaluations	18-19/P ₃
	10c	Assessment of intervention adherence and tolerability, including adverse events	18-19/P ₄
Discussion	11a	Strengths and limitations in your approach to this case	15-22/P ₄
	11b	Specify how this case report informs practice or Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPG)	5-18/P ₅
	11c	How does this case report suggest a testable hypothesis?	15-22/P ₄
	11d	Conclusions and rationale	20-29/P ₅
Patient Perspective	12	When appropriate include the assessment of the patient or client on this episode of care	10-18/P ₅
Informed Consent	13	Informed consent from the person who is the subject of this case report is required by most journals	attached file
Additional Information	14	Acknowledgement section; Competing interests; IRB approval when required	31-32/P ₅