



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	L1-2/P1
Key Words	2	Four to seven key words—include “case report” as one of the key words	L18/P2
Abstract	3a	Background: What does this case report add to the medical literature?	L6-7/P2
	3b	Case summary: chief complaint, diagnoses, interventions, and outcomes	L9-14/P2
	3c	Conclusion: What is the main “take-away” lesson from this case?	L16-17/P2
Introduction	4	The current standard of care and contributions of this case—with references (1-2 paragraphs)	L3-5/P4
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	L10/P4
	6b	Chief complaint—what prompted this visit?	L10-11/P4
	6c	Relevant history including past interventions and outcomes	L13-17, 19-20/P4
Physical Exam	7	Relevant physical examination findings	L3-4/P5
Diagnostic Assessment	8a	Evaluations such as surveys, laboratory testing, imaging, etc.	L5, 7-8/P5
	8b	Diagnostic reasoning including other diagnoses considered and challenges	L15-16/P5
	8c	Consider tables or figures linking assessment, diagnoses and interventions	Figure 1
	8d	Prognostic characteristics where applicable	N/A
Interventions	9a	Types such as life-style recommendations, treatments, medications, surgery	L6-7/P6
	9b	Intervention administration such as dosage, frequency and duration	N/A
	9c	Note changes in intervention with explanation	N/A
	9d	Other concurrent interventions	L7-9, 15-17/P6; L1-2/P7
Follow-up and Outcomes	10a	Clinician assessment (and patient or client assessed outcomes when appropriate)	L4-5, 9, 12-13, 16-17/P7
	10b	Important follow-up diagnostic evaluations	L7-8, 11-12, 14-16/P7
	10c	Assessment of intervention adherence and tolerability, including adverse events	L9-11, 12-14/P7
Discussion	11a	Strengths and limitations in your approach to this case	L5-6, 12-13/P9
	11b	Specify how this case report informs practice or Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPG)	L6-11/P9
	11c	How does this case report suggest a testable hypothesis?	N/A
	11d	Conclusions and rationale	L2-4/P10
Patient Perspective	12	When appropriate include the assessment of the patient or client on this episode of care	L16-17/P7
Informed Consent	13	Informed consent from the person who is the subject of this case report is required by most journals	YES
Additional Information	14	Acknowledgement section; Competing Interests; IRB approval when required	N/A