



CARE Checklist – 2016: Information for writing a case report

Topic	Item	Checklist item description	Line/Page
Title Key Words	1	The words “case report” should be in the title along with the area of focus	3 / 1
	2	Four to seven key words—include “case report” as one of the key words	3 / 1
Abstract	3a	Background: What does this case report add to the medical literature?	5 / 2
	3b	Case summary: chief complaint, diagnoses, interventions, and outcomes	8–14 / 2
	3c	Conclusion: What is the main “take-away” lesson from this case?	16–17 / 2
Introduction	4	The current standard of care and contributions of this case—with references (1–2 paragraphs)	2–6 / 3
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	N/A
	6b	Chief complaint—what prompted this visit?	9–11 / 3
	6c	Relevant history including past interventions and outcomes	12–17 / 3
Physical Exam	7	Relevant physical examination findings	19 / 3
Diagnostic Assessment	8a	Evaluations such as surveys, laboratory testing, imaging, etc.	21–27 / 3
	8b	Diagnostic reasoning including other diagnoses considered and challenges	8–10 / 4
	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	8 / 4
	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)	3–5 / 5
	10b	Important follow-up diagnostic evaluations	7–9 / 1
	10c	Assessment of intervention adherence and tolerability, including adverse events	N/A
Discussion	11a	Strengths and limitations in your approach to this case	8–9 / 6
	11b	Specify how this case report informs practice or Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPG)	N/A
	11c	How does this case report suggest a testable hypothesis?	4–7 / 6
	11d	Conclusions and rationale	11–16 / 6
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	✓ 10 / 1
Additional Information	14	Acknowledgement section, Competing Interests, IRB approval when required	N/A