



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	1/1
Key Words	2	Four to seven key words—include “case report” as one of the key words	3/17.18
Abstract	3a	Background: What does this case report add to the medical literature?	2/17-3/1
	3b	Case summary: chief complaint, diagnoses, interventions, and outcomes	3/3-11
	3c	Conclusion: What is the main “take-away” lesson from this case?	3/13-15
Introduction	4	The current standard of care and contributions of this case—with references (1-2 paragraphs)	4/5-11
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	4/18-23
	6b	Chief complaint—what prompted this visit?	4/14-16
	6c	Relevant history including past interventions and outcomes	4/25-5/4
Physical Exam	7	Relevant physical examination findings	5/11-17
Diagnostic	8a	Evaluations such as surveys, laboratory testing, imaging, etc.	5/19-26
Assessment	8b	Diagnostic reasoning including other diagnoses considered and challenges	6/6-9
	8c	Consider tables or figures linking assessment, diagnoses and interventions	6/9-14
	8d	Prognostic characteristics where applicable	n/a
Interventions	9a	Types such as life-style recommendations, treatments, medications, surgery	6/4-6/6
	9b	Intervention administration such as dosage, frequency and duration	6/22-25
	9c	Note changes in intervention with explanation	6/25-6/26
	9d	Other concurrent interventions	n/a
Follow-up and Outcomes	10a	Clinician assessment (and patient or client assessed outcomes when appropriate)	7/1
	10b	Important follow-up diagnostic evaluations	n/a
	10c	Assessment of intervention adherence and tolerability, including adverse events	n/a
Discussion	11a	Strengths and limitations in your approach to this case	7/15-8/4 8/9-8/13
	11b	Specify how this case report informs practice or Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPG)	8/25-9/4
	11c	How does this case report suggest a testable hypothesis?	8/16-19
	11d	Conclusions and rationale	8/25-9/4
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	as attachment
Additional Information	14	Acknowledgement section; Competing Interests; IRB approval when required	, 9/10-14