



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	5/1_____
Key Words	2	Four to seven key words—include “case report” as one of the key words	28/3_____
Abstract	3a	Background: What does this case report add to the medical literature?	3/2_____
	3b	Case summary: chief complaint, diagnoses, interventions, and outcomes	11/3_____
	3c	Conclusion: What is the main “take-away” lesson from this case?	23/3_____
Introduction	4	The current standard of care and contributions of this case—with references (1-2 paragraphs)	14/4_____
Timeline	5	Information from this case report organized into a timeline (table or figure)	25/6_____
Patient Information	6a	De-identified demographic and other patient or client specific information	7/5_____
	6b	Chief complaint—what prompted this visit?	6/5_____
	6c	Relevant history including past interventions and outcomes	10/5_____
Physical Exam	7	Relevant physical examination findings	20/5_____
Diagnostic Assessment	8a	Evaluations such as surveys, laboratory testing, imaging, etc.	1/6_____
	8b	Diagnostic reasoning including other diagnoses considered and challenges	6/6_____
	8c	Consider tables or figures linking assessment, diagnoses and interventions	10/6_____
	8d	Prognostic characteristics where applicable	20/6_____
Interventions	9a	Types such as life-style recommendations, treatments, medications, surgery	25/6_____
	9b	Intervention administration such as dosage, frequency and duration	1/7_____
	9c	Note changes in intervention with explanation	4/7_____
	9d	Other concurrent interventions	6/7_____
Follow-up and Outcomes	10a	Clinician assessment (and patient or client assessed outcomes when appropriate)	20/6_____
	10b	Important follow-up diagnostic evaluations	9/6_____
	10c	Assessment of intervention adherence and tolerability, including adverse events	11/7_____
Discussion	11a	Strengths and limitations in your approach to this case	12/8_____
	11b	Specify how this case report informs practice or Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPG)	20/9_____
	11c	How does this case report suggest a testable hypothesis?	13/3_____
	11d	Conclusions and rationale	20/9_____
Patient Perspective	12	When appropriate include the assessment of the patient or client on this episode of care	5/16_____
Informed Consent	13	Informed consent from the person who is the subject of this case report is required by most journals	2/14_____
Additional Information	14	Acknowledgement section; Competing Interests; IRB approval when required	5/14_____