

CARE Checklist – 2016: Information for writing a case report

Topic	Item	Checklist item description	Reported on page
Title	1	The words “case report” should be in the title along with the area of focus	1
Key Words	2	Four to seven key words—include “case report” as one of the key words	3
Abstract	3a	Background: What does this case report add to the medical literature?	3
	3b	Case summary: chief complaint, diagnoses, interventions, and outcomes	3
	3c	Conclusion: What is the main “take-away” lesson from this case?	3
Introduction	4	The current standard of care and contributions of this case—with references (1-2 paragraphs)	6-7
Timeline	5	Information from this case report organized into a timeline (table or figure)	45 (Table 1)
Patient Information	6a	De-identified demographic and other patient or client specific information	8
	6b	Chief complaint—what prompted this visit?	8
	6c	Relevant history including past interventions and outcomes	8
Physical Exam	7	Relevant physical examination findings	8-9 and Fig. 1
Diagnostic Assessment	8a	Evaluations such as surveys, laboratory testing, imaging, etc.	8-9 and Fig. 1
	8b	Diagnostic reasoning including other diagnoses considered and challenges	Not applicable
	8c	Consider tables or figures linking assessment, diagnoses and interventions	Not applicable
	8d	Prognostic characteristics where applicable	Not applicable
Interventions	9a	Types such as life-style recommendations, treatments, medications, surgery	12-18
	9b	Intervention administration such as dosage, frequency and duration	12-18 and Table 1
	9c	Note changes in intervention with explanation	Not applicable
	9d	Other concurrent interventions	Not applicable
Follow-up and Outcomes	10a	Clinician assessment (and patient or client assessed outcomes when appropriate)	18-20 and Figs. 3-9
	10b	Important follow-up diagnostic evaluations	18 (patient’s satisfaction), 18-20 and Figs. 3-9 (X-rays and histology)
	10c	Assessment of intervention adherence and tolerability, including adverse events	Not applicable
Discussion	11a	Strengths and limitations in your approach to this case	21-27
	11b	Specify how this case report informs practice or Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPG)	21-27
	11c	How does this case report suggest a testable hypothesis?	21-27
	11d	Conclusions and rationale	28
Patient Perspective	12	When appropriate include the assessment of the patient or client on this episode of care	Not applicable
Informed Consent	13	Informed consent from the person who is the subject of this case report is required by most journals	2 and 12
Additional Information	14	Acknowledgement section; Competing Interests; IRB approval when required	2 and 12