



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	5-6/1
Key Words	2	Four to seven key words—include “case report” as one of the key words	63-64/3
Abstract	3a	Background: What does this case report add to the medical literature?	42-46/2
	3b	Case summary: chief complaint, diagnoses, interventions, and outcomes	47-57/2
	3c	Conclusion: What is the main “take-away” lesson from this case?	58-61/2-3
Introduction	4	The current standard of care and contributions of this case—with references (1-2 paragraphs)	81-96/3-4
Timeline	5	Information from this case report organized into a timeline (table or figure)	314-316/14
Patient Information	6a	De-identified demographic and other patient or client specific information	103-121/4-5
	6b	Chief complaint—what prompted this visit?	99-101/4
	6c	Relevant history including past interventions and outcomes	103-121/4-5
Physical Exam	7	Relevant physical examination findings	123-129/5
Diagnostic Assessment	8a	Evaluations such as surveys, laboratory testing, imaging, etc.	131-164/5-6
	8b	Diagnostic reasoning including other diagnoses considered and challenges	166-170/6
	8c	Consider tables or figures linking assessment, diagnoses and interventions	261-296/10-12
	8d	Prognostic characteristics where applicable	181-184/7
Interventions	9a	Types such as life-style recommendations, treatments, medications, surgery	172-179/6-7
	9b	Intervention administration such as dosage, frequency and duration	172-179/6-7
	9c	Note changes in intervention with explanation	179-180/7
	9d	Other concurrent interventions	
Follow-up and Outcomes	10a	Clinician assessment (and patient or client assessed outcomes when appropriate)	181-183/7
	10b	Important follow-up diagnostic evaluations	157-164/6
	10c	Assessment of intervention adherence and tolerability, including adverse events	183-184/7
Discussion	11a	Strengths and limitations in your approach to this case	186-211/7-8
	11b	Specify how this case report informs practice or Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPG)	212-228/8-9
	11c	How does this case report suggest a testable hypothesis?	228-245/8
	11d	Conclusions and rationale	247-255/9
Patient Perspective	12	When appropriate include the assessment of the patient or client on this episode of care	253-255/9
Informed Consent	13	Informed consent from the person who is the subject of this case report is required by most journals	30/1
Additional Information	14	Acknowledgement section; Competing Interests; IRB approval when required	257-259/9