



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	57-58/1
Abstract	3a	Background: What does this case report add to the medical literature?	39-43/3
	3b	Case summary: chief complaint, diagnoses, interventions, and outcomes	45-31/3
	3c	Conclusion: What is the main “take-away” lesson from this case?	53-55/3
Introduction	4	The current standard of care and contributions of this case—with references (1-2 paragraphs)	70-92/4
Timeline	5	Information from this case report organized into a timeline (table or figure)	416-417/6
Patient Information	6a	De-identified demographic and other patient or client specific information	96/4
	6b	Chief complaint—what prompted this visit?	95-97/4
	6c	Relevant history including past interventions and outcomes	103-104/5
Physical Exam	7	Relevant physical examination findings	109-112/5
Diagnostic Assessment	8a	Evaluations such as surveys, laboratory testing, imaging, etc.	114-167/6-7
	8b	Diagnostic reasoning including other diagnoses considered and challenges	118-119/5, 126-128/5, 143-144/6, 155-158/6, 229-237/9
	8c	Consider tables or figures linking assessment, diagnoses and interventions	392-417/16
	8d	Prognostic characteristics where applicable	169-171/7
Interventions	9a	Types such as life-style recommendations, treatments, medications, surgery	173-178/7
	9b	Intervention administration such as dosage, frequency and duration	173-178/7
	9c	Note changes in intervention with explanation	174-175/7, 263-265/8
	9d	Other concurrent interventions	176-177/7
Follow-up and Outcomes	10a	Clinician assessment (and patient or client assessed outcomes when appropriate)	180-185/7, 267-269/10
	10b	Important follow-up diagnostic evaluations	182-185/7
	10c	Assessment of intervention adherence and tolerability, including adverse events	174-175/7
Discussion	11a	Strengths and limitations in your approach to this case	275-277/10
	11b	Specify how this case report informs practice or Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPG)	193-198/8
	11c	How does this case report suggest a testable hypothesis?	192-193/7-8, 214-216/8
	11d	Conclusions and rationale	274-277/10
Patient Perspective	12	When appropriate include the assessment of the patient or client on this episode of care	176-177/7
Informed Consent	13	Informed consent from the person who is the subject of this case report is required by most journals	358-359/14
Additional Information	14	Acknowledgement section; Competing Interests; IRB approval when required	279-280/10, 358-363/14