



CARE Checklist – 2016: Information to consider when writing a case report

Topic	Item	Checklist item description	
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—including “case report” as a key word _____	2
Abstract	3a	Background: What does this case report add to the medical literature _____	3
	3b	Case summary (1 paragraph): chief complaint, diagnoses, interventions, and outcomes _____	3
	3c	Conclusion: What are the main “take-away” lessons from this case? _____	3,4
Introduction	4	How does this case informs healthcare delivery—with references (1-2 paragraphs) _____	6
Timeline	5	Relevant information from this case report organized into a timeline (table or figure) _____	15, figure 2
Patient Information	6a	De-identified demographic and other patient specific information _____	6,7
	6b	Chief complaint (what prompted this patient visit) _____	6
	6c	Relevant medical and psychosocial history (including interventions and outcomes) _____	8
Physical Exam	7	Relevant physical examination findings _____	8
Diagnostic Assessment	8a	Diagnostic evaluations (such as laboratory testing, imaging, surveys) _____	8
	8b	Diagnoses (consider tables/figures linking assessment with diagnoses and interventions) _____	8
	8c	Diagnostic reasoning including other diagnoses considered and diagnostic challenges _____	8
	8d	Prognostic characteristics (such as staging in oncology) where applicable _____	not applicable
Interventions	9a	Types of intervention (such as pharmacologic, surgical, preventive, self-care) _____	9
	9b	Intervention administration (such as dosage, strength, duration) _____	9
	9c	Changes in intervention (with rationale) _____	6,7,8
	9d	Other concurrent interventions _____	6,7,8
Follow-up and Outcomes	10a	Clinician and patient-assessed outcomes (when appropriate) _____	9
	10b	Important follow-up diagnostic evaluations _____	6,7,8
	10c	Assessment of intervention adherence and tolerability _____	9
	10d	Adverse and unanticipated events _____	6,7,8
Discussion	11a	Strengths and limitations in your approach to this case—with references _____	9,10
	11b	Conclusions and rationale (including possible causes for outcomes) _____	11
Patient Perspective	12	When appropriate include the patient’s perspective on this episode of care _____	11
Informed Consent	13	Patient informed consent is likely to be required by a journal (or your institution) prior to publication _____	13
Other	14	IRB approval as indicated or needed; Acknowledgement section; Competing Interests; Funding _____	13