



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	(4-5/1)
Key Words	2	Four to seven key words—include “case report” as one of the key words	(15-16/3)
Abstract	3a	Background: What does this case report add to the medical literature?	(20-21/2)
	3b	Case summary: chief complaint, diagnoses, interventions, and outcomes	(23-25/2, 1-8/3)
	3c	Conclusion: What is the main “take-away” lesson from this case?	(11-13/3)
Introduction	4	The current standard of care and contributions of this case—with references (1-2 paragraphs)	(5-7/4)
Timeline	5	Information from this case report organized into a timeline (table or figure)	(13-15)
Patient Information	6a	De-identified demographic and other patient or client specific information	(16/4)
	6b	Chief complaint—what prompted this visit?	(16, 20-24/4)
	6c	Relevant history including past interventions and outcomes	(24-27/4, 4-6/5)
Physical Exam	7	Relevant physical examination findings	(17-21/5)
Diagnostic Assessment	8a	Evaluations such as surveys, laboratory testing, imaging, etc.	(23-27/5, 1-5/6, 7-11/5)
	8b	Diagnostic reasoning including other diagnoses considered and challenges	(9-11/5)
	8c	Consider tables or figures linking assessment, diagnoses and interventions	(7-8/6)
	8d	Prognostic characteristics where applicable	(25/6)
Interventions	9a	Types such as life-style recommendations, treatments, medications, surgery	(5-7/6)
	9b	Intervention administration such as dosage, frequency and duration	(22-23/6)
	9c	Note changes in intervention with explanation	(24-25/6)
	9d	Other concurrent interventions	(25-26/6&1-2/7)
Follow-up and Outcomes	10a	Clinician assessment (and patient or client assessed outcomes when appropriate)	(6/7)
	10b	Important follow-up diagnostic evaluations	(6-7/7)
	10c	Assessment of intervention adherence and tolerability, including adverse events	(5-6/7)
Discussion	11a	Strengths and limitations in your approach to this case	(25-29/8)
	11b	Specify how this case report informs practice or Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPG)	(5-8/9)
	11c	How does this case report suggest a testable hypothesis?	(25-27/8)
	11d	Conclusions and rationale	(5-11/9)
Patient Perspective	12	When appropriate include the assessment of the patient or client on this episode of care	(7-9/7)
Informed Consent	13	Informed consent from the person who is the subject of this case report is required by most journals	(5-9/2)
Additional Information	14	Acknowledgement section; Competing Interests; IRB approval when required	(5-11/2, 13-14/9)