



CARE Checklist – 2016: Information for writing a case report

Topic	Item	Checklist item description	Line/Page
Title Key Words	1	The words “case report” should be in the title along with the area of focus	2 / p1
	2	Four to seven key words—include “case report” as one of the key words	24-31 / p2
Abstract	3a	Background: What does this case report add to the medical literature?	7-14 / p2
	3b	Case summary: chief complaint, diagnoses, interventions, and outcomes	14-23 / p2
	3c	Conclusion: What is the main “take-away” lesson from this case?	25-27 / p2
Introduction	4	The current standard of care and contributions of this case—with references (1-2 paragraphs)	27-34 / p3
Timeline	5	Information from this case report organized into a timeline (table or figure)	N/A
Patient Information	6a	De-identified demographic and other patient or client specific information	6-7 / p4
	6b	Chief complaint—what prompted this visit?	9-13 / p4
	6c	Relevant history including past interventions and outcomes	18-19 / p4
Physical Exam	7	Relevant physical examination findings	25-33 / p4
Diagnostic Assessment	8a	Evaluations such as surveys, laboratory testing, imaging, etc.	35-42 / p4
	8b	Diagnostic reasoning including other diagnoses considered and challenges	44-45 / p4
	8c	Consider tables or figures linking assessment, diagnoses and interventions	34 / p4
	8d	Prognostic characteristics where applicable	N/A
Interventions	9a	Types such as life-style recommendations, treatments, medications, surgery	3-8 / p5
	9b	Intervention administration such as dosage, frequency and duration	8-16 / p5
	9c	Note changes in intervention with explanation	16-20 / p5
	9d	Other concurrent interventions	20-24 / p5
Follow-up and Outcomes	10a	Clinician assessment (and patient or client assessed outcomes when appropriate)	36-44 / p5
	10b	Important follow-up diagnostic evaluations	46-49 / p5
	10c	Assessment of intervention adherence and tolerability, including adverse events	50-51 / p5
Discussion	11a	Strengths and limitations in your approach to this case	4-11 / p6
	11b	Specify how this case report informs practice or Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPG)	13-49 / p6
	11c	How does this case report suggest a testable hypothesis?	2-6 / p7
	11d	Conclusions and rationale	5-8 / p7
Patient Perspective	12	When appropriate include the assessment of the patient or client on this episode of care	N/A
Informed Consent	13	Informed consent from the person who is the subject of this case report is required by most journals	39 / p7 / 34 / p8
Additional Information	14	Acknowledgement section; Compelling Interests; IRB approval when required	44 / p7