



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	5/1
Key Words	2	Four to seven key words—include “case report” as one of the key words	13/2
Abstract	3a	Background: What does this case report add to the medical literature?	28/1
	3b	Case summary: chief complaint, diagnoses, interventions, and outcomes	33/1
	3c	Conclusion: What is the main “take-away” lesson from this case?	6/2
Introduction	4	The current standard of care and contributions of this case—with references (1-2 paragraphs)	23/2
Timeline	5	Information from this case report organized into a timeline (table or figure)	
Patient Information	6a	De-identified demographic and other patient or client specific information	25/2
	6b	Chief complaint—what prompted this visit?	34/2
	6c	Relevant history including past interventions and outcomes	5/3
Physical Exam	7	Relevant physical examination findings	19/3
Diagnostic Assessment	8a	Evaluations such as surveys, laboratory testing, imaging, etc.	25/3
	8b	Diagnostic reasoning including other diagnoses considered and challenges	30/3
	8c	Consider tables or figures linking assessment, diagnoses and interventions	18/6
	8d	Prognostic characteristics where applicable	
Interventions	9a	Types such as life-style recommendations, treatments, medications, surgery	3/33
	9b	Intervention administration such as dosage, frequency and duration	
	9c	Note changes in intervention with explanation	
	9d	Other concurrent interventions	
Follow-up and Outcomes	10a	Clinician assessment (and patient or client assessed outcomes when appropriate)	4/3
	10b	Important follow-up diagnostic evaluations	5/4
	10c	Assessment of intervention adherence and tolerability, including adverse events	5/4
Discussion	11a	Strengths and limitations in your approach to this case	5/12
	11b	Specify how this case report informs practice or Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPG)	18/4
	11c	How does this case report suggest a testable hypothesis?	11/5
	11d	Conclusions and rationale	17/5
Patient Perspective	12	When appropriate include the assessment of the patient or client on this episode of care	8/5
Informed Consent	13	Informed consent from the person who is the subject of this case report is required by most journals	6/8
Additional Information	14	Acknowledgement section; Competing Interests; IRB approval when required	11/6