



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 / 1
	2	Four to seven key words—include "case report" as one of the key words	24 / 2
			4 / 2
Abstract	3a	Background: What does this case report add to the medical literature?	9 / 2
	3b	Case summary: chief complaint, diagnoses, interventions, and outcomes	17 / 2
	3c	Conclusion: What is the main "take-away" lesson from this case?	4 / 3
Introduction	4	The current standard of care and contributions of this case—with references (1-2 paragraphs)	26 / 2
Timeline	5	Information from this case report organized into a timeline (table or figure)	15 / 3
Patient Information	6a	De-identified demographic and other patient or client specific information	13 / 3
	6b	Chief complaint—what prompted this visit?	21 / 4
	6c	Relevant history including past interventions and outcomes	18 / 4
Physical Exam	7	Relevant physical examination findings	24 / 4
Diagnostic Assessment	8a	Evaluations such as surveys, laboratory testing, imaging, etc.	22 / 5
	8b	Diagnostic reasoning including other diagnoses considered and challenges	22 / 5
	8c	Consider tables or figures linking assessment, diagnoses and interventions	25 / 5
	8d	Prognostic characteristics where applicable	25 / 5
Interventions	9a	Types such as life-style recommendations, treatments, medications, surgery	6 / 7
	9b	Intervention administration such as dosage, frequency and duration	7 / 7
	9c	Note changes in intervention with explanation	7 / 7
	9d	Other concurrent interventions	25 / 5
Follow-up and Outcomes	10a	Clinician assessment (and patient or client assessed outcomes when appropriate)	22 / 5
	10b	Important follow-up diagnostic evaluations	22 / 5
	10c	Assessment of intervention adherence and tolerability, including adverse events	25 / 5
Discussion	11a	Strengths and limitations in your approach to this case	15 / 7
	11b	Specify how this case report informs practice or Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPG)	18 / 8
	11c	How does this case report suggest a testable hypothesis?	20 / 8
	11d	Conclusions and rationale	25 / 5
Patient Perspective	12	When appropriate include the assessment of the patient or client on this episode of care	15 / 12
Informed Consent	13	Informed consent from the person who is the subject of this case report is required by most journals	20 / 9
Additional Information	14	Acknowledgement section; Competing Interests; IRB approval when required	

