



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	14 / 2
	2	Four to seven key words—include "case report" as one of the key words	14 / 2
Key Words	3a	Background: What does this case report add to the medical literature?	3-6 / 2
	3b	Case summary: chief complaint, diagnoses, interventions, and outcomes	8-14 / 2
	3c	Conclusion: What is the main "take-away" lesson from this case?	16-18 / 2
Abstract	4	The current standard of care and contributions of this case—with references (1-2 paragraphs)	2-5 / 3
Introduction	5	Information from this case report organized into a timeline (table or figure)	
Timeline	6a	De-identified demographic and other patient or client specific information	21-22 / 3
Patient Information	6b	Chief complaint—what prompted this visit?	21-22 / 3
	6c	Relevant history including past interventions and outcomes	20 / 3
Physical Exam	7	Relevant physical examination findings	2-4 / 4
Diagnostic Assessment	8a	Evaluations such as surveys, laboratory testing, imaging, etc.	6-19 / 4
	8b	Diagnostic reasoning including other diagnoses considered and challenges	16-17 / 4
	8c	Consider tables or figures linking assessment, diagnoses and interventions	16-17 / 4
	8d	Prognostic characteristics where applicable	2-4 / 4
Interventions	9a	Types such as life-style recommendations, treatments, medications, surgery	21-24 / 4
	9b	Intervention administration such as dosage, frequency and duration	21-24 / 4
	9c	Note changes in intervention with explanation	21-24 / 4
	9d	Other concurrent interventions	21-24 / 4
Follow-up and Outcomes	10a	Clinician assessment (and patient or client assessed outcomes when appropriate)	24-29 / 4
	10b	Important follow-up diagnostic evaluations	25-29 / 4
	10c	Assessment of intervention adherence and tolerability, including adverse events	26-29 / 4
Discussion	11a	Strengths and limitations in your approach to this case	34/5 - 3/6
	11b	Specify how this case report informs practice or Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPG)	29-33 / 5
	11c	How does this case report suggest a testable hypothesis?	5-8 / 6
	11d	Conclusions and rationale	5-8 / 6
Patient Perspective	12	When appropriate include the assessment of the patient or client on this episode of care	22-35 / 5
Informed Consent	13	Informed consent from the person who is the subject of this case report is required by most journals	2 / 9
Additional Information	14	Acknowledgement section; Competing Interests; IRB approval when required	12-13 / 9