



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	6/1
Key Words	2	Four to seven key words—include “case report” as one of the key words	24-24
Abstract	3a	Background: What does this case report add to the medical literature?	2-1/3
	3b	Case summary: chief complaint, diagnoses, interventions, and outcomes	12/3-14/4
	3c	Conclusion: What is the main “take-away” lesson from this case?	15-18/4
Introduction	4	The current standard of care and contributions of this case—with references (1-2 paragraphs)	16-6/7
Timeline	5	Information from this case report organized into a timeline (table or figure)	7/1-7/3
Patient Information	6a	De-identified demographic and other patient or client specific information	11/7
	6b	Chief complaint—what prompted this visit?	8-9/7
	6c	Relevant history including past interventions and outcomes	10/7-18/8
Physical Exam	7	Relevant physical examination findings	19/8-25/8
Diagnostic Assessment	8a	Evaluations such as surveys, laboratory testing, imaging, etc.	26/8-13/2
	8b	Diagnostic reasoning including other diagnoses considered and challenges	15-17/2
	8c	Consider tables or figures linking assessment, diagnoses and interventions	4-11/2, 11-14/2
	8d	Prognostic characteristics where applicable	20/15-21/16
Interventions	9a	Types such as life-style recommendations, treatments, medications, surgery	26/12-21/13
	9b	Intervention administration such as dosage, frequency and duration	26/12-21/13
	9c	Note changes in intervention with explanation	26/12-21/13
	9d	Other concurrent interventions	19-21/13
Follow-up and Outcomes	10a	Clinician assessment (and patient or client assessed outcomes when appropriate)	26/12-21/13
	10b	Important follow-up diagnostic evaluations	26/12-21/13
	10c	Assessment of intervention adherence and tolerability, including adverse events	26/12-21/13
Discussion	11a	Strengths and limitations in your approach to this case	4/14-22/8
	11b	Specify how this case report informs practice or Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPG)	11/18-16/8
	11c	How does this case report suggest a testable hypothesis?	4/14-10/8
	11d	Conclusions and rationale	23/18-4/9
Patient Perspective	12	When appropriate include the assessment of the patient or client on this episode of care	23/18-23/13-1/4
Informed Consent	13	Informed consent from the person who is the subject of this case report is required by most journals	27-28/1
Additional Information	14	Acknowledgement section; Competing Interests; IRB approval when required	6-9/9