

CARE Checklist – 2016: Information for writing a case report

Topic		Item Checklist item description	Line/Page
Title Key Words	1 2	The words "case report" should be in the title along with the area of focus Four to seven key words—include "case report" as one of the key words	22/3
Abstract	3a 3b 3c	Background: What does this case report add to the medical literature? Case summary: chief complaint, diagnoses, interventions, and outcomes Conclusion: What is the main "take-away" lesson from this case?	1-5/3 6-18/3 19-21/3
Introduction	4	The current standard of care and contributions of this case—with references (1-2 paragraphs)	14-27/4
Timeline	5	Information from this case report organized into a timeline (table or figure)	
Patient Information	6a 6b 6c	De-identified demographic and other patient or client specific information Chief complaint—what prompted this visit? Relevant history including past interventions and outcomes	7-24/5 25-28/5
Physical Exam	7	Relevant physical examination findings	
Diagnostic Assessment	8a 8b 8c 8d	Evaluations such as surveys, laboratory testing, imaging, etc. Diagnostic reasoning including other diagnoses considered and challenges Consider tables or figures linking assessment, diagnoses and interventions Prognostic characteristics where applicable	1-5/6 9-12/7
Interventions	9a 9b 9c 9d	Types such as life-style recommendations, treatments, medications, surgery Intervention administration such as dosage, frequency and duration Note changes in intervention with explanation Other concurrent interventions	13-26/7
Follow-up and Outcomes	10a 10b 10c	Clinician assessment (and patient or client assessed outcomes when appropriate) Important follow-up diagnostic evaluations Assessment of intervention adherence and tolerability, including adverse events	14-17/8
Discussion	11a 11b 11c 11d	Strengths and limitations in your approach to this case Specify how this case report informs practice or Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPG) How does this case report suggest a testable hypothesis? Conclusions and rationale	18-25/8 1-3/9 18-24/9
Patient Perspective	12	When appropriate include the assessment of the patient or client on this episode of care	
Informed Consent	13	Informed consent from the person who is the subject of this case report is required by most journals	1-6/12
Additional Information	14	Acknowledgement section; Competing Interests; IRB approval when required	25-29/9

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