



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