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	3/1
Key Words	**2**	Four to seven key words—include "case report" as one of the key words	21/2
Abstract	**3a**	Background: What does this case report add to the medical literature?	19/2
	3b	Case summary: chief complaint, diagnoses, interventions, and outcomes	10/2
	3c	Conclusion: What is the main "take-away" lesson from this case?	
Introduction	**4**	The current standard of care and contributions of this case—with references (1-2 paragraphs)	33/2
Timeline	**5**	Information from this case report organized into a timeline (table or figure)	
Patient Information	**6a**	De-identified demographic and other patient or client specific information	
	6b	Chief complaint—what prompted this visit?	8/3
	6c	Relevant history including past interventions and outcomes	11/3
Physical Exam	**7**	Relevant physical examination findings	22/3
Diagnostic Assessment	**8a**	Evaluations such as surveys, laboratory testing, imaging, etc.	25/3
	8b	Diagnostic reasoning including other diagnoses considered and challenges	43/3
	8c	Consider tables or figures linking assessment, diagnoses and interventions	
	8d	Prognostic characteristics where applicable	
Interventions	**9a**	Types such as life-style recommendations, treatments, medications, surgery	1/4
	9b	Intervention administration such as dosage, frequency and duration	
	9c	Note changes in intervention with explanation	
	9d	Other concurrent interventions	
Follow-up and Outcomes	**10a**	Clinician assessment (and patient or client assessed outcomes when appropriate)	11/4
	10b	Important follow-up diagnostic evaluations	
	10c	Assessment of intervention adherence and tolerability, including adverse events	
Discussion	**11a**	Strengths and limitations in your approach to this case	1/5
	11b	Specify how this case report informs practice or Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPG)	26/4
	11c	How does this case report suggest a testable hypothesis?	
	11d	Conclusions and rationale	29/5
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	32/7
Additional Information	**14**	Acknowledgement section; Competing Interests; IRB approval when required	35/7