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