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

**Key Words 2** Four to seven key words—include “case report” as one of the key words

**Abstract 3a** Background: What does this case report add to the medical literature? **3b** Case summary: chief complaint, diagnoses, interventions, and outcomes **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)

**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?

**6c** Relevant history including past interventions and outcomes

**Physical Exam 7** Relevant physical examination findings

**Diagnostic 8a** Evaluations such as surveys, laboratory testing, imaging, etc.

**Assessment 8b** Diagnostic reasoning including other diagnoses considered and challenges **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

**9b** Intervention administration such as dosage, frequency and duration

**9c** Note changes in intervention with explanation

**9d** Other concurrent interventions

**Follow-up and 10a** Clinician assessment (and patient or client assessed outcomes when appropriate)

**Outcomes 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

**11b** Specify how this case report informs practice or Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPG)

**11c** How does this case report suggest a testable hypothesis?

**11d** Conclusions and rationale

**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

**Additional Information 14** Acknowledgement section; Competing Interests; IRB approval when required

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