

CASE REPORT WRITING TEMPLATE FOR AUTHORS

Title. Include the words “case report” in the title. Describe the phenomenon of greatest interest (eg, symptom, diagnosis, diagnostic test, intervention, outcome).

Abstract. Summarize the following information if relevant: (1) Rationale for this case report, (2) Presenting concerns (eg, chief complaints or symptoms, diagnoses), (3) Interventions (eg, diagnostic, preventive, prognostic, therapeutic exchange), (3) Outcomes, and (4) Main lesson(s) from this case report.

Key Words. Provide 3 to 8 key words that will help potential readers search for and find this case report.

Introduction. Briefly summarize the background and context of this case report.

Presenting Concerns. Describe the patient characteristics (eg, relevant demographics—age, gender, ethnicity, occupation) and their presenting concern(s) with relevant details of related past interventions.

Clinical Findings. Describe: (1) the medical, family, and psychosocial history including lifestyle and genetic information; (2) pertinent co-morbidities and relevant interventions (eg, self-care, other therapies); and (3) the physical examination (PE) focused on the pertinent findings including results from testing.

Timeline. Create a timeline that includes specific dates and times (table, figure, or graphic).

Diagnostic Focus and Assessment. Provide an assessment of the (1) diagnostic methods (eg, PE, laboratory testing, imaging, questionnaires, referral); (2) diagnostic challenges (eg, financial, patient availability, cultural); (3) diagnostic reasoning including other diagnoses considered, and (4) prognostic characteristics (eg, staging) where applicable.

Therapeutic Focus and Assessment. Describe: (1) the type(s) of intervention (eg, preventive, pharmacologic, surgical, lifestyle, self-care) and (2) the administration and intensity of the intervention (eg, dosage, strength, duration, frequency).

Follow-up and Outcomes. Please describe the clinical course of this case including all follow-up visits as well as (1) intervention modification, interruption, or discontinuation, and the reasons; (2) adherence to the intervention and how this was assessed; and (3) adverse effects or unanticipated events. Please describe (1) patient-reported outcomes, (2) clinician-assessed and -reported outcomes, and (3) important positive and negative test results.

Discussion. Please describe (1) the strengths and limitations of this case report including case management, (2) the literature relevant to this case report (the scientific and clinical context), (3) the rationale for your conclusions (eg, potential causal links and generalizability), and (4) the main findings of this case report: What are the take-away messages?

Patient Perspective. The patient should share his or her experience or perspective of the care in a narrative that accompanies the case report whenever appropriate.

Informed Consent. Did the patient give the author of this case report informed consent? Provide if requested.

Case Report Submission Requirements for Authors

1. Competing interests. Are there any competing interests?

2. Ethics Approval. Did an ethics committee or Institutional Review Board give approval? If yes, please provide if requested.

3. De-Identification. Has all patient related data been de-identified?