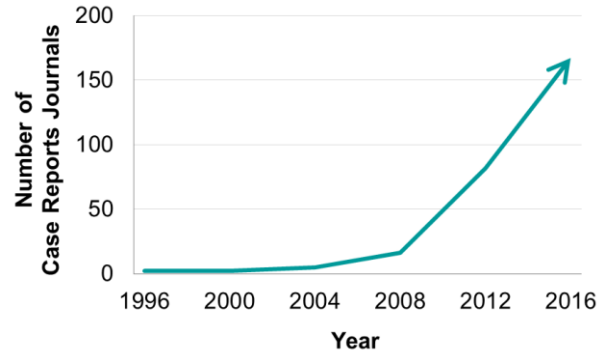


Publishing Case Reports

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Are you planning to publish a medical case report? Although your chances of publishing in a mainstream journal are slim, a vast number of new open access journals focus on publishing case reports and have higher acceptance rates. Unfortunately, many of these journals employ questionable publishing practices.



Warning signs of questionable open access journals

- Sends spam email requests for submissions or editorial positions
- No named editor-in-chief or one without academic credentials
- Article processing charges not clearly displayed on website
- Website looks unprofessional or articles are not professionally typeset
- The name of the journal does not reflect its origin
- Promises an unreasonably short peer review period

Choosing a good journal: what to look for

- Indexed in PubMed
- Recognizable publisher
- Named editor-in-chief and editorial board members with academic credentials
- Sponsored by a professional society

Tips for writing high-quality case reports: further reading

CARE guidelines for writing case reports. www.care-statement.org

R. Chelvarajah and J. Bycroft. (2004). Writing and publishing case reports: the road to success. *Acta Neurochirurgica*, 146: 313-316.

S.M. Wright and C. Kouroukis. (2000). Capturing zebras: what to do with a reportable case. *Canadian Medical Association Journal*, 163: 429-431.

B.N. Green and C.D. Johnson. (2006). How to write a case report for publication. *Journal of Chiropractic Medicine*, 2: 72-82.

S. Bhattacharyya, J. Miller, and A.H. Ropper. (2014). The case for case reports. *Annals of Neurology*, 76: 484-486.



Shiffman Medical Library

Recommended Journals for Publishing Case Reports

Recent years have seen a tremendous increase in the number of journals dedicated to publishing medical case reports, although not all of these journals are of high quality. Here, we provide a list of recommended journals for publishing case reports. All of these journals have reputable publishers and are indexed in PubMed.

ACG Case Reports Journal*	Case Reports in Pediatrics
American Journal of Case Reports	Case Reports in Psychiatry
BMJ Case Reports**	Case Reports in Pulmonology
Case Reports in Anesthesiology	Case Reports in Radiology
Case Reports in Cardiology	Case Reports in Rheumatology
Case Reports in Critical Care	Case Reports in Surgery
Case Reports in Dermatological Medicine	Case Reports in Transplantation
Case Reports in Dermatology	Case Reports in Urology
Case Reports in Emergency Medicine	Case Reports in Vascular Medicine
Case Reports in Endocrinology	Clinical Case Reports
Case Reports in Gastroenterology	Clinical Medicine Insights: Case Reports
Case Reports in Gastrointestinal Medicine	Endocrinology, Diabetes & Metabolism Case Reports
Case Reports in Genetics	Epilepsy & Behavior Case Reports
Case Reports in Hematology	European Journal of Pediatric Surgery Reports
Case Reports in Hepatology	Gynecologic Oncology Reports
Case Reports in Immunology	International Journal of Surgery Case Reports
Case Reports in Infectious Diseases	International Medical Case Reports Journal
Case Reports in Medicine	JAAD Case Reports
Case Reports in Nephrology	Journal of Medical Case Reports
Case Reports in Nephrology and Dialysis	Journal of Neurological Surgery Reports
Case Reports in Neurological Medicine	Journal of Radiology Case Reports
Case Reports in Neurology	Journal of Surgical Case Reports
Case Reports in Obstetrics and Gynecology	Journal of Surgical Technique and Case Reports
Case Reports in Oncological Medicine	Medical Mycology Case Reports
Case Reports in Ophthalmological Medicine	Neurocase
Case Reports in Ophthalmology	Oxford Medical Case Reports
Case Reports in Oncology	Respirology Case Reports
Case Reports in Orthopedics	Retinal Cases and Brief Reports
Case Reports in Otolaryngology	The Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgeon Reports
Reports in Pathology	Case

*Lead author must be a GI fellow or resident interested in pursuing a GI fellowship.

**Individual fellowship fee waived for WSU affiliates.

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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 Assessment	8a	Evaluations such as surveys, laboratory testing, imaging, etc.	_____
	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 Outcomes	10a	Clinician assessment (and patient or client assessed outcomes when appropriate)	_____
	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	_____

CASE REPORT WRITING TEMPLATE FOR AUTHORS

General Considerations. Please ensure that all patient data has been de-identified and that you obtained the necessary approval, if necessary, from an ethics commission or an institutional review board. Do you have any competing interests?

Title. Include the words “case report” in the title. Describe what is of greatest interest to you the author. This could be the presentation, the diagnosis, a test result, the intervention, or the outcome.

Abstract. In about 200 words summarize the following information if relevant: (1) Rationale for this case report, (2) Presenting concerns of the patient (such as chief complaints or symptoms, diagnoses), (3) Interventions (such as diagnostic, preventive, prognostic, therapeutic exchange), (3) Outcomes, and (4) Main lesson(s) to learn from this case report.

Key Words. Provide 2 to 5 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 (such as the relevant demographics—age, gender, ethnicity, occupation) and their presenting concerns with relevant details of related past interventions.

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

Timeline. Create a timeline that includes specific dates and times in a table, figure, or graphic. Visit www.care-statement.org/case-report-examples for one example of a case report timeline.

Diagnostic Focus and Assessment. Provide an assessment of the (1) diagnostic methods (including laboratory testing, imaging results, questionnaires, referral diagnostic information); (2) diagnostic challenges (such as limited ability to complete an evaluation, patient availability, cultural); (3) diagnostic reasoning including other diagnoses considered, and (4) prognostic characteristics (such as staging in oncology) where applicable.

Therapeutic Focus and Assessment. Describe the (1) types of interventions (such as pharmacologic, surgical, preventive, lifestyle, self-care) and (2) administration and intensity of the intervention (including 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 the strengths and limitations of this case report including case management, and the scientific and medical literature related to this case report. Discuss the rationale for your conclusions such as potential causation and the ways this case might be generalized to a larger population. Finally, what are the main findings of this case report and what are the 'take-away' messages?

Patient Perspective. Whenever appropriate the patient should share their experience of their care in a narrative published within this case report or accompanying this case report.

Informed Consent. Ensure that the patient provided their informed consent for the publication of this case report.