

# Writing case reports

Authors of case reports should adhere to ethical and reporting standards and respect patient privacy. Inability to do so can lead to desk rejection by editors.

## Consent and privacy

- Consent for publication from the patient or their legally recognized representatives is an absolute requirement
- Consent for treatment does not equate with consent for publication
- Ethics committees alone do not have the authority to approve publication on behalf of a patient
- Evidence of consent (written or verbal) should be retained by authors and institutions in accordance with local legislation
- Consent forms should not be included in article submissions
- Patient identifiers should be removed from the text, images, videos, tables and supplementary information
- Images should be cropped to eliminate unwanted detail

Case reports provide a unique opportunity to share clinical experience and inform practice about rare conditions and unusual clinical presentations.

## Case report submissions

- Must adhere to the journal's Guide for Authors
- The CARE guidelines are the recommended reporting format
- The SCARE checklist may be used for reporting surgical procedures
- The case presentation should specify the sequence of events
- Follow-up information should be provided
- At least one author of a case report should have been involved in patient care
- Individuals only involved in patient care who have not contributed to the writing of the article should be listed in the acknowledgment section

## Further information

*Case Reports in Women's Health* Guide for Authors. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/case-reports-in-womens-health/publish/guide-for-authors>

Eve K, *et al.* The case for consent: A primer on patient privacy and informed consent. September 2021). <https://www.elsevier.com/connect/the-case-for-consent-a-primer-on-patient-privacy-and-informed-consent>

Ngene NC, Rees M Writing case reports: Sharing clinical experience to inform practice. *Case Reports in Women's Health*, 42 (2024) e00621. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.crwh.2024.e00621>

Riley DS, *et al.* CARE guidelines for case reports: explanation and elaboration document. *Journal of Clinical Epidemiology*, 89 (2017), 218–235. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclinepi.2017.04.026>

Sohrabi C, *et al.* The SCARE 2023 guideline: Updating consensus Surgical CAse REport (SCARE) guidelines. *International Journal of Surgery (London, England)*, 109 (2023), 1136–1140. <https://doi.org/10.1097/JS9.0000000000000373>