

Template for navigating the submission process for British Medical Journal (BMJ) Case Reports

TITLE OF CASE :

Ensure the title accurately reflects the diagnosis and main point of the case. Avoid using cryptic, humorous, or play-on-word titles. Exclude terms like "a case report," "review," "literature review," "rare case," or "first case." Do not include the patient's age, sex, or ethnicity.

SUMMARY :

Provide a brief, 150-word summary of the case presentation and outcome, emphasizing the key learning points. This section is equivalent to an abstract and should be easily understood by a wide audience.

BACKGROUND :

Provide the context of your manuscript. Discuss the prevalence of the health problem and the key message of your report.

CASE PRESENTATION :

Give a detailed account of the patient's presenting features, including medical, social, and family history. Anonymize the manuscript as much as possible. Do not include exact age, ethnicity, or institution names. Use internationally accepted units for measurements and scientific names for drugs.

INVESTIGATIONS :

Discuss all investigations that create a baseline picture or are crucial to management decisions. Include limitations and interpretation problems. Use appropriate images and videos but ensure patient anonymity. Do not publish images including the patient's face.

DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS :

Avoid listing diagnoses. Instead, discuss how the final diagnosis was reached. This section is crucial and should be discussed fully.

TREATMENT :

Include pharmacological and non-pharmacological treatments but avoid discussing the efficacy of new treatments or off-label use of drugs. Carefully detail dosage and frequency.

OUTCOME AND FOLLOW-UP :

Include comprehensive follow-up data, defining the follow-up period. State the patient's health status, return to daily activities, and aftercare arrangements. Disclose if the patient has died and if it is related to the illness.

DISCUSSION :

Describe the mechanisms of pathology, current guidelines, and diagnostic pathways. Include a summary of similar published cases and relevant clinical guidelines. Avoid copying from existing publications.

LEARNING POINTS/TAKE-HOME MESSAGES :

Provide 3-5 bullet points summarizing the key points of the case that you want readers to remember.

REFERENCES :

Include only relevant, up-to-date references in Vancouver style that support your points.

FIGURE/VIDEO CAPTIONS :

Choose illustrations that effectively illustrate your case. Ensure patient anonymity in images and videos. Use color and annotation to enhance understanding.

PATIENT'S PERSPECTIVE :

Include a section written by the patient or close family, describing their experience with the illness and treatment. Ensure anonymity and correct spelling and grammar.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS ASSIGNMENT OR LICENCE STATEMENT:

Include a statement granting BMJ the right to publish your work if accepted.