AME Case Series Checklist –Adapted from CARE Checklist and PROCESS Checklist

Section	Item	Checklist description	Reported on Page Number/Line Number	Reported on Section/Paragraph
Title	1	The diagnosis or intervention of primary focus followed by the words "case series".	1,3	title
Key Words	2	2 to 5 key words that identify diagnoses or interventions in this case series, including "case report" or "case series".	2,28	key words
Abstract (no references)	3a	Introduction—What is unique about this case series and what does it add to the scientific literature?	3,40	abstract, 2
	3b	Methods—describe what was done, how and when was it done and by whom.	3,45	abstract, 3
	3c	Results—what was found.	3, 50	abstract, 4
	3d	Conclusion—What is the main take-away lesson(s)? What have we learned and what does it mean?	3,55	abstract, 5
Introduction	4	Explain the scientific background and rationale for the case series. What is the unifying theme - common disease, exposure, intervention and outcome, etc. Why is this study needed?	4, 60-70 4, 60-70 3, 67-72	Introduction, 1
Methods	5a	Registration and ethics— 5a.1 State the research registry number in accordance with the declaration of Helsinki - "Every research study involving human subjects must be registered in a publicly accessible database" (this can be obtained from; ResearchRegistry.com or ClinicalTrials.gov or ISRCTN). 5a.2 State whether ethical approval was passed. 5a.3 Provide the patient consent form too.	5, 91-94 5, 91-94 5, 93 9, 190	patients and methods, 2 ethical statement, 1
	5b	Study design—state the study is a case series and whether prospective or retrospective in design, whether single or multi-center and whether cases are consecutive or non-consecutive.	4,77-80	patients and methods, 1
	5c	Setting - describe the setting(s)and nature of the institution in which the patient was managed; academic, community or private practice setting? Location(s), and relevant dates, including periods of recruitment, exposure, follow-up, and data collection.	4, 79-80 5, 87,90	patients and methods, 1
	5d	Participants— 5d.1 Describe the relevant characteristics of the participants (history, comorbidities, tumor staging, smoking, etc.). 5d.2 State any eligibility (inclusion/exclusion) criteria and the sources and methods of selection of participants.	TABLE 1 5,81-84	patients and methods, 1 TABLE 1

	5e	Intervention—types of intervention (such as pharmacologic, surgical, preventive, self-care) deployed and reasoning behind treatment offered. Pharmacological therapies should include formulation, dosage, strength, route and duration.	5,97-118	surgical procedure, 1,2,3
	5f	Follow up—describe length and methods of follow-up.	6, 125; 7,129	results, 3
Results	6a	Participants—reports numbers involved and their characteristics (comorbidities, tumor staging, smoking, etc.).	4, 77-87 + TABLE 1	patients and methods, 1
	6b	Any changes in the interventions during the course of the case series (how has it evolved, been tinkered with, what learning occurred, etc.) together with rationale and a diagram if appropriate.	n/a	
	6c	Outcomes and follow-up—Clinician assessed and patient-reported outcomes (when appropriate) should be stated with inclusion of the time periods at which assessed. Relevant photographs/radiological images should be provided. e.g. 12-month follow-up.	6, 121-128	results, 1
	6d	Where relevant—intervention adherence/compliance and tolerability (how was this assessed). Describe loss to follow-up (express as a percentage) and any explanations for it.	7, 129	results, 2
	6e	Complications and adverse or unanticipated events.	6, 123	results, 1
Discussion	7a	Summarize key results.	6, 121	results, 1
	7b	Discussion of the relevant literature, implications for clinical practice guidelines. How do outcomes compare with established therapies and the prevailing gold standard? Generate a hypothesis if possible.	7, 144-154	discussion, 3
	7c	Strengths and limitations of the study.	8, 155; 8, 170	discussion, 4; limitations,
	7d	The rationale for any conclusions.	7, 150	discussion, 3
Conclusion	8a	State the key conclusions from the study.	9, 179	conclusion, 1
	8b	State what needs to be done next, further research with what study design.	9, 180	conclusion, 1

Article information: http://dx.doi.org/10.21037/jovs-20-103
*As the checklist was provided upon initial submission, the page number/line number reported may be changed due to copyediting and may not be referable in the published version. In this case, the section/paragraph may be used as an alternative reference.