

Table 3. Recommendations for creating improved case reports describing very rare conditions.

Recommendations
Follow CARE guidelines
Identify as many of the following types of published articles as possible: most recent narrative review, most recent meta-analysis, any clinical practice recommendations, studies showing a molecular or genetic cause, reports of an accepted diagnostic criteria, descriptions of treatment
Carefully compare the diagnostic criteria with the patient's data
Only describe patients all authors have seen in person
Consult an expert on the rare condition, and provide access to appropriate materials to that individual
The manuscript should outline the diagnostic criteria and objectively demonstrate how the patient met them
The manuscript should follow logically within a known disease mechanism or cautiously propose a new one