Case Report: Ethical Concern

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Brief Note

Case report is an important kind of medical article. It has been worldwide published in many journals around the world. It is a useful source for updating knowledge for the practitioner. Also, new findings can be derived at very early stage from case report [1]. There is no doubt that case report can be valuable if the good peer reviewing process is done by the journal. An important concern on the case report is ethical issue. In general, ethical issue is important in any practice. To write and publish a case report, a general ethical consideration has to be followed. Basic scientific misconducts have to be avoided. Plagiarism and falsification have to be banned [2]. In addition, the written consent from the reported patient must be obtained [3]. However, since “in some situations, requesting informed consent may be unethical, can harm patients”, the consent can be sometimes obtain from the care taker of the patients [3]. Also, the privacy of the reported patient has to be maintained. “Demonstrating respect for persons in the use of case report material” must be concerned [4]. Blinding of the eyes is the general rule (if it is not the case report on “eye”). Patient identification must be blinded [5]. These are basic issues that a practitioner has to keep in mind when they intend to write and publish a case report.

References


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