## 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”.                                                                                                                                     | 1/1                                | Title                         |
| Key Words                | 2    | 2 to 5 key words that identify diagnoses or interventions in this case series, including "case report" or "case series".                                                                                                  | 6/127                              | Key Words                     |
| Abstract (no references) | 3a   | Introduction—What is unique about this case series and what does it add to the scientific literature?                                                                                                                | 5/103                              | Abstract                      |
|                          | 3b   | Methods—describe what was done, how and when was it done and by whom.                                                                                                                                                | 5/107                              | Abstract                      |
|                          | 3c   | Results—what was found.                                                                                                                                                                                                | 5/111                              | Abstract                      |
|                          | 3d   | Conclusion—What is the main take-away lesson(s)? What have we learned and what does it mean?                                                                                                                          | 5/122                              | Abstract                      |
| 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? | 7/152                              | Introduction                  |
| Methods                  | 5a   | Registration and ethics—                                                                                                                                            | 7/164-168                          | Materials and Methods         |
|                          | 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.                                                                                                                              |                                    |                               |
|                          | 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.                                         | 7/164                              | Materials and Methods         |
|                          | 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. | 7/169-8/191                        | Materials and Methods         |
|                          | 5d   | Participants—                                                                                                                                                    | 7/169                              | Materials and Methods         |
|                          | 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.                                                                                                         |                                    |                               |
|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 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. | N/A | N/A |
| 5f | Follow up—describe length and methods of follow-up. | 8/190 | Materials and Methods |
| Results | 6a | Participants—reports numbers involved and their characteristics (comorbidities, tumor staging, smoking, etc.). | 8/194 | Results |
|   | 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 | 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. | 9/215 | Results |
|   | 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. | N/A | N/A |
|   | 6e | Complications and adverse or unanticipated events. | 9/209 | Results |
| Discussion | 7a | Summarize key results. | 10/226 | Discussion |
|   | 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. | N/A | N/A |
|   | 7c | Strengths and limitations of the study. | 11/269 | Discussion |
|   | 7d | The rationale for any conclusions. | N/A | N/A |
| Conclusion | 8a | State the key conclusions from the study. | 11/272 | Conclusions |
|   | 8b | State what needs to be done next, further research with what study design. | 11/275 | Conclusions |

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*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.