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The word retarded should be used as an adjective rather than a noun; retardate should be avoided. Terms that are scientifically precise should be adhered to. Therefore, mentally retarded will be preferred to retarded because it specifies the type of retardation, and intellectually average or normal intelligence will be preferred over normal. A similar format should be followed if other disabilities are involved. It is understood that all investigations have been approved by the human subjects review committee of the author’s institution.

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