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Memorandum

To: Trialists

Fr: Curtis Meinert

Re: Words you should never use when characterizing your trial

Hang around a place like this and you get invitations for “innovative research proposals” focused on pet topics.

Nothing I have done has been innovative, so why would I believe now, in my waning years, that I am capable of producing an “innovative proposal”?

Another invitation I can ignore.

Innovative?

It is not a call I am capable of making in relation to my own work. I never use the term; long ago deleted from my vocabulary.

Other terms you should delete from yours when describing the design or results of your trial are:

Definitive,

Original,

Unique,

and

Ground breaking.

Maybe you have others to add.