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REFERENCES

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Letter to the Editor

Dear Dr. Friedman,

I recently came across Dr. Stanley Aronson’s note, “The Verbiage of Obesity,” in the May 2003 issue. Since some patients object to being called “Fat” or “Obese”, I would like to suggest the use of another perhaps a more scientific term, “Habitomegaly”. This perhaps would not offend patients, families, etc. It comes from habitus, -referring to one’s body, and - megaly - referring to enlargement thereof. This would be a new word and perhaps not so offensive. It was actually suggested to me one day by a student as I was dictating an x-ray report and suggesting the presence of obesity on a patient who appeared to be obese. Coming from a student, this is a pretty good suggestion and I like it.

Sincerely,

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