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*A More Accurate Pooled Standard Deviation.* Preliminary report.

The inaccuracy of the existing method for estimating a pooled standard deviation from summary data - counts ( $N_j$ ), means ( $M_{uj}$ ), and standard deviations ( $Sig_j$ ) - of the populations ( $j$ ) being pooled is well known. This paper derives another method to calculate a pooled standard deviation from the summary data ( $N_j$ ,  $M_{uj}$ , &  $Sig_j$ ) which appears to more accurately represent the standard deviation that might be calculated if the raw data were pooled. Because raw data may often be costly to acquire, if not unavailable, this other method, if it is mathematically sound, might benefit medical, biological, pharmaceutical, physical, chemical, materials, demographic, and other researchers. (Received January 28, 2009)