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External heated humidification during non-invasive ventilation set up: results from a pilot cross-over clinical trial

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Short-term heated humidification has limited effect on physiological and clinical outcomes during non-invasive ventilation set up <http://bit.ly/31cFfGt>

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To the Editor:

Patient comfort is important in ensuring adherence to domiciliary non-invasive ventilation (NIV). Oronasal dryness is often reported with NIV use [1], but the use of heated humidification in clinical practice is not uniform [2]. As there are limited data to currently guide clinical practice, we investigated the effect of external heated humidification on neural respiratory drive (NRD), patient-ventilator asynchrony (PVA), patient-reported outcomes, ventilator performance and adherence in a pilot randomised crossover trial in patients with chronic respiratory failure during NIV set up.