



Addition of bacterial filter alters positive airway pressure and non-invasive ventilation performances

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The recommendation to add a bacterial filter on home positive pressure devices has significant negative impact on their performances and precludes auto-titrating positive airway pressure to function. These data suggest to not follow such recommendation. <https://bit.ly/31YrWyo>

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To the Editor:

Recently, one manufacturer of home ventilators issued an alert regarding the potential risk of serious injury related to the use of some of their positive airway pressure (PAP) and non-invasive ventilation (NIV) devices [1]. The risk is caused by the polyurethane foam used in their ventilators. In some cases, the foam broke into the blower and could have been inhaled by patients. The manufacturer and some healthcare regulatory agencies advocated, as a temporary solution, to modify PAP and NIV circuits by adding an inline bacterial filter in order to reduce the risk of inhalation [2]. However, changing ventilator circuits can alter ventilator performances during PAP and NIV [3].

