'LouseBuster' claims to stop bugs from getting a head

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SALT LAKE CITY -- Head lice -- those nasty nuisances for schoolchildren and parents -- were blown away in half an hour by a new blow dryer-like device its inventors call the "LouseBuster," university researchers report.

The device, which kills bugs and eggs by drying them out, might one day offer an alternative to the powerful delousing shampoos and literal nit-picking currently necessary for dealing with this widespread problem.

The LouseBuster results were reported in the November issue of the journal Pediatrics by University of Utah researchers who said the device eliminates infestations by preventing reproduction.

"The idea would be that instead of sending kids home from school, which is a hardship on kids and the parents, a kid might be able to go to the front office and get treated," said Dale Clayton, the co-inventor.

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