Maggie A Montgomery and Jamie Bartram (82) challenge the utility of surgery and antibiotics for the elimination of blinding trachoma in the absence of adequate environmental measures.

International cooperation and assistance remain crucial for the success of the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, says Haik Nikogosian (83) on the fifth anniversary of the treaty.

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**United States of America**

**Halving coronary deaths**
Simon Capewell et al. (120–130) propose scenarios to reduce cardiovascular mortality.

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**Pakistan**

**Politics and polio**
The resurgence of the disease is jeopardizing worldwide efforts to eradicate the disease, writes Sania Nishtar (159–160).

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**Thailand**

**Health finance**
Thailand tries to ensure costly renal replacement therapy does not threaten universal health coverage, reports Apiradee Treerutkuarkul (84–85).

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**United Arab Emirates**

**Weighy problems**
Consumption of fast food and sugary drinks has caused a rise in obesity and diabetes, reports Michael Reid (86–87).

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**Uganda**

**Expiry of essential medicines**
Josephine Katabazi Nakyanzi et al. (154–158) assess how to improve the pharmaceuticals supply chain.

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**Brazil**

**Ivermectin for head lice**
Daniel Pilger et al. (90–96) find that mass treatment may reduce this scourge of childhood.

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**Ukraine**

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**Bangladesh**

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Amnesty LeFevre et al. (104–112) examine the cost-effectiveness of skin creams for preterm infants to prevent infections.

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**Australia**

**Preventing pneumonia**
KF O’Grady et al. (139–146) evaluate the effectiveness of the 7-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine in indigenous infants.

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**India**

**Vaccinations at the right time**
Shankar Prinja et al. (97–103) assess strategies to ensure children are immunized at the appropriate age.

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