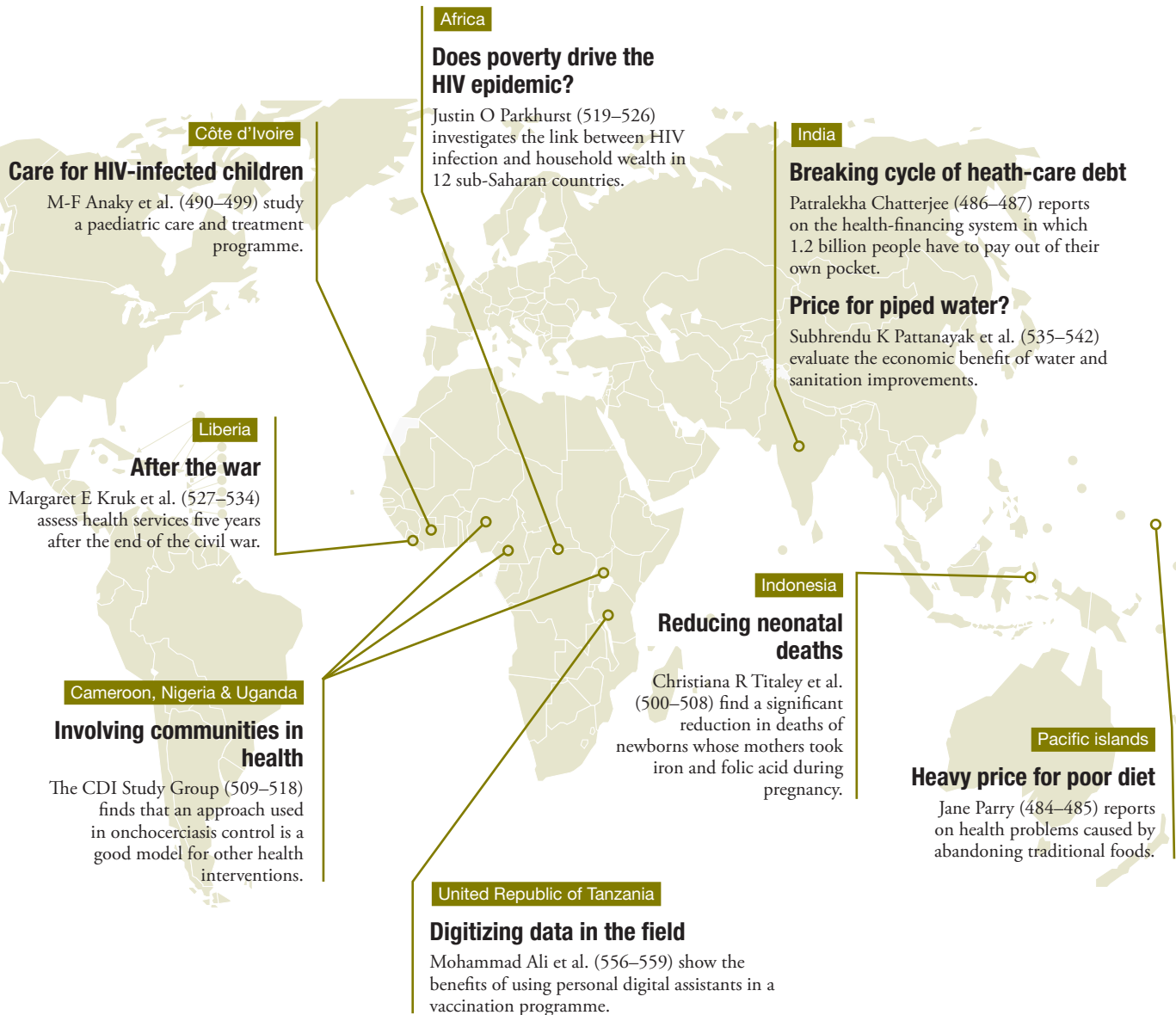


This issue's cover shows a pregnant woman carrying water in India and illustrates an editorial by Clarissa Brocklehurst & Jamie Bartram (482) on the major impact that water and sanitation have on the lives of women and girls. In a second editorial, Jeremy A Greene (483) discusses the evolving role of essential medicines in public health.

In an interview, Melissa Leach (488–489) says there is much to learn from combining local and scientific knowledge in dealing with haemorrhagic fevers.



Improving the use of evidence

Jennifer Mindell et al. (543–550) develop a practical guide for doing health impact assessments.

Applying human rights for health

Jane Cottingham et al. (551–555) develop a tool to examine States' human rights obligations.