In an editorial, Babak Pourbohloul & Marie Paule Kieny (242) discuss the emerging discipline of complex system analysis and its potential use in health systems management. In a second editorial, Michelle Kermode et al. (243) call for including opioid substitution therapy in programmes to prevent HIV transmission in resource-poor settings. Alice Ghent (246–247) reports on the growing trend towards using happiness as a measure of national progress. In an interview, Mercedes de Onis (250–251) talks to Gozde Zorlu about WHO’s new child growth standards.