In this month’s Bulletin

In editorials, Bayard Roberts et al. (2) draw attention to the increased risks of noncommunicable diseases in post-conflict countries, and Njoki Ng’ang’a & Mary Woods Byrne (3) call for more efforts to professionalize nursing in developing countries. Jack Serle & Fiona Fleck (8–9) report on a campaign to improve the safety of health workers in war zones. In an interview, Samer Jabbour (10–11) discusses how the recent revolutions in the Arab world are changing the public health landscape.

Bangladesh
Flu season
Eduardo Azziz-Baumgartner et al. (12–19) determine how much influenza contributes to severe acute respiratory illness.

China
Why so many caesarean sections?
Xing Lin Feng et al. (30–39) examine the factors driving a rapid increase in caesarean sections, particularly in urban areas.

Georgia
A change in tuberculosis policy
Jennifer Furin et al. (63–66) present the experience of eliminating a treatment regimen from national tuberculosis guidelines.

Germany
Defusing the demographic “time-bomb”
Germany has a dedicated insurance system for long-term care but is this sustainable as the population ages rapidly? Jan Dirk Herbermann and Débora Mirahida (6–7) report.

India
Measuring unhealthy lifestyles
Magdalena Z Raban et al. (20–29) find it difficult to quantify risk factors for noncommunicable disease due to missing data.

Sri Lanka
From pesticides to medicines
Varuni A de Silva et al. (40–46) analyse trends in self-harm and hospitalization due to poisoning.

Alcohol industry funding for health?
In a Round table discussion, Richard Matzopoulos et al. (67–69) show concern about funding the alcohol industry to provide health education. Anna B Gilmore & Gary Fooks (72) support this view. Victor Bampoe et al. (70–71) respond from the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

No care for mental health
Antonio Lora et al. (47–54) find that two-thirds of people with schizophrenic disorders in low- and middle-income countries have no access to mental health services.

Salt and iodine: a fine balance
Norm Campbell et al. (73–74) discuss the need to coordinate salt reduction and iodine supplementation programmes.

Imbalance in health research
Bridget Pratt & Bebe Loff (55–62) consider reasons why most health research funding is spent chasing new discoveries.