In the editorial section, Pascal Zurn et al. (466) announce an upcoming theme issue on global health and BRICS (Brazil, Russian Federation, India, China and South Africa). The Post 2015 Working Group of the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (467) highlights women and children’s health as part of the post-2015 development agenda. Angelika Tritscher et al. (468) note the 50th anniversary of the Codex Alimentarius Commission.

In the news section, Gary Humphreys (471–472) describes how technology transfer can help improve access to hearing aids in India. Fiona Fleck interviews Iain Chalmers (473–474) about transparency in clinical trials.

**Affordable medicines worldwide**
Dianne Nicol & Olasupo Owoeye (533–539) ask what high-income countries are doing to create better access to medicines.

**Questions and answers**
Rouselle F Lavado et al. (519–524) compare health budget estimates from different surveys.

**Policies that save lives**
David T Levy et al. (509–518) estimate deaths averted through tobacco-control policies.

**How many cases of preventable blindness?**
Paul Torgerson & Pierpaolo Mastroiacovo (501–508) estimate the global burden of congenital toxoplasmosis.

**Viet Nam**
**Mitigating the harms of injection drug use**
Bach Xuan Tran (475–482) studies people’s willingness to pay for methadone.

**Latin America**
**Tracing mortality patterns**
Maria de Fatima Marinho de Souza et al. (525–532) study respiratory disease deaths and the impact of the 2009 influenza pandemic.

**Ukraine**
**More access to antiretrovirals**
Heather Bailey et al. (491–500) study the impact of treating HIV during pregnancy.

**India**
**Getting iodized salt to children**
Jee H Rah et al. (540–544) study two iodine supplementation programmes.

**Africa**
**Who is funding what, where?**
Nathalie Van de Maele et al. (483–490) trace patterns of development assistance for health in Africa.

**Africa**

**Policies that save lives**
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