In editorials this month, Alakes Kumar Kole and colleagues (230) explain why India accounts for one-third of the annual global deaths from rabies. Francesco Branca and colleagues (231) highlight a lack of progress in preventing and treating anaemia in the childbearing year. Priya Shetty (234–235) reports on the difficulty of improving breastfeeding rates in Indonesia. Ciro de Quadros (236–237) tells Fiona Fleck why it’s harder to eliminate vaccine-preventable diseases today than it was in the past.

United Republic of Tanzania

**Bypassing primary care**
Margaret E Kruk et al. (246–253) ask why mothers avoid their local clinics when giving birth.

South Africa

**Timing the comfort feed**
Michelle J Groome et al. (238–245) study whether breastfeeding effects the immune response to rotavirus vaccine.

Caribbean

**Any progress on noncommunicable diseases?**
T Alafia Samuels et al. (270–276) ask if political commitments have been kept.

Guatemala

**Building capacity**
Lauren D Arnold et al. (297–302) describe efforts to improve local cancer prevention, control and research.

South Sudan

**More nets, but more malaria**
Emmanuel Chanda et al. (290–296) consider how best to distribute bednets.

**From SARS to influenza**
Sirenda Vong et al. (303–308) evaluate the return on investment in better communications.

Timor-Leste

**Retaining the rural workforce**
Augustine D Asante et al. (277–282) examine the factors that keep doctors in rural areas.

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The human cost of polluted oceans
Mary C Sheehan et al. (254–269) review the evidence on mercury exposure from seafood.

What’s in the water?
Ameer Shaheed et al. (283–289) explain why improved water sources are not always safe.