This month’s special theme is childhood injuries and violence. In an editorial, Charles Mock et al. (326) provide an overview of the global situation. In a second editorial, Shanthi Ameratunga et al. (327) discuss how early initiation of rehabilitation can reduce acute health-care costs and prevent disability in injured children.

In an interview, Wim Rogmans, general secretary of the European Association for Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion (EuroSafe), (334–335) discusses the dangers children face in everyday life and ways to minimize risks.

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Czech Republic

Preventing burns
Alexander Martin Čelko et al. (374–381) assess risk factors for burn injuries and suggest preventive measures.

Israel

Patterns of violence
Michael Rozenfeld & Kobi Peleg (362–368) study the extent of violence-related injuries to children.

Jordan

Child maltreatment comes out
Dale Gavlak (333–334) reports on how a child protection centre in Jordan is serving as a model for other child safety and welfare programmes in the region.

Viet Nam

Why are children not wearing helmets?
Aaron Pervin et al. (369–373) explore reasons why many parents do not put motorcycle helmets on their children.

Bangladesh, Colombia, Egypt & Pakistan

An insight into childhood injuries
Adnan A Hyder et al. (345–352) explore the risk factors for unintentional injuries in children aged less than 11 years.

Democratic Republic of the Congo & Uganda

Healing child soldiers
Gary Humphreys (330–331) reports on the struggle to repair the psychological and physical damage caused to children involved in armed conflict.

Swaziland

Facing up to sexual abuse
Mantoe Phakathi (328–329) reports on efforts to acknowledge and deal with the problem of child sexual abuse.

Australia

Fragile brain, handle with care
Jonathan Dart & Sarah Cumberland (331–332) report on a form of child abuse that is not instantly recognizable but has dire consequences.

Brazil

Key factors affecting mental health
Isabel A Bordin et al. (336–344) find that severe punishment may be related to child mental health problems.

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Children have special needs
Charles Mock et al. (382–389) call for greater emphasis on trauma care for injured children.

Research lacking
Christopher Mikton & Alexander Butchart (353–361) review recent evidence on child maltreatment interventions.

A recipe for preventing injuries
In a round table discussion (395–401), Ivan Barry Pless reflects on what is needed worldwide to prevent injuries in children. Shanthi Ameratunga, Joan Ozanne-Smith and Ian Roberts debate this issue.

Public health classic
Carol W Runyan & Susan P Baker (402–403) review a paper by William Haddon published in 1973 that presents a way to prevent injuries by analyzing the forces that cause them.

Shift from infectious diseases to injury
Alison Harvey et al. (390–394) propose ways to integrate injury prevention into child health policies.