Goal
Reduction by one third in the deaths due to ARI in children under five years

Result
The Integrated Management of Childhood Illness (IMCI) initiative, first developed in 1992, and other community-based health programmes teach caregivers to recognize the signs of ARI and seek timely treatment outside the home.

…but
In more than 40 of the 82 countries with available data, fewer than 50 per cent of the children with ARI were taken to a health care provider. Availability and accessibility of appropriate health care providers and antibiotics must also be improved in many countries.

Issue
ARI is a leading cause of death in children under the age of five in developing countries. Pneumonia is the most serious of these infections but often can be treated with affordable antibiotics. When children develop signs of ARI – a cough accompanied by short, rapid breathing – appropriate health care should be sought immediately.