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Nota di contenuto	INFLAMMATORY BOWEL DISEASE: CROSSROADS OF MICROBES, EPITHELIUM AND IMMUNE SYSTEMS; Contents; Participants; Chair's introduction; Progress towards identifying inflammatory bowel disease susceptibility genes; Discussion; Phenotype-determining genes in inflammatory bowel disease; Discussion; Pharmacogenetics of inflammatory bowel disease; Discussion; Bacterial milieu and mucosal bacteria in ulcerative colitis; Discussion; Defensins and mucosal protection; Discussion; Intestinal mycoplasma in Crohn's disease; Discussion; Probiotics, prebiotics and antibiotics in inflammatory bowel disease DiscussionThe epithelium in inflammatory bowel disease: potential role of endocytosis of junctional proteins in barrier disruption; Discussion; Apoptosis or necrosis colonic epithelial cell survival; Discussion; Genetic aspects of intestinal permeability in inflammatory bowel

disease; Discussion; Animal models of intestinal inflammation: clues to the pathogenesis of inflammatory bowel disease; Discussion; Homing of intestinal immune cells; Discussion; Anti-TNF therapy in Crohn's disease; Discussion; Final discussion; Index of contributors; Subject index

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## Sommario/riassunto

Inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) comprises a group of idiopathic diseases of the intestine characterized by chronic inflammation of the bowel with periods of exacerbation and remission. Although the exact cause of IBD remains undetermined, the condition appears to be related to a combination of genetic and environmental factors resulting in an aberrant activation of the mucosal immune system. This book contains a series of interdisciplinary discussions between clinical and basic scientists focusing on key issues such as: Epithelial cell and molecular biology, including ap

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