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Collana	New Human Frontiers series
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Soggetti	Bacteria Viruses Communicable diseases - Prevention Communicable diseases - Treatment World health Epidemics - History
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Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Introduction -- One: Why Are We So Worried About Bacteria? -- BSE/CJD -- Necrotizing fasciitis -- Typhoid in Aberdeen -- Leprosy, Ebola and MRSA -- Clostridium difficile, Alexandria -- Two: Victories -- Smallpox -- Diphtheria and syphilis -- Gas and water socialism, pasteurization -- Diet -- Surprises -- Three: The Advance of the Mutants, and Other Novelties -- E. coli -- Salmonella -- Mutant chickens and Campylobacter -- Antibiotic resistance -- Bats and rabies, SARS and Ebola -- Four: How Our Actions Help Bacteria to Win Some Battles -- Anthrax -- Legionnaires' disease: A very modern condition; Learning lessons -- Five: Politics -- Influenza: The slippery disease -- Cholera -- Sexually transmitted diseases: HIV -- Foot and mouth disease: A very political pathogen -- Syphilis: American exceptionalism, again -- Eradication endgames -- Conclusion.
Sommario/riassunto	Today, we are far less likely to die from infection than at any other time in history, but still we worry about epidemics, the menace of antibiotic resistance and modern 'plagues' like Ebola. In this timely new book, eminent bacteriologist Hugh Pennington explores why these fears remain and why they are unfounded. He reports on outright victories

(such as smallpox), battles where the enemy is on its last stand (polio), surprise attacks from vegetarian bats (Ebola, SARS) and demented cows (BSE). Qualified optimism, he argues, is the message for the future but the battles will go on forever.
