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Nota di contenuto	Cell wall biosynthesis in Chlamydia -- Genetic manipulation in Chlamydia -- Early events in the Chlamydia developmental cycle -- Subversion of the host cell cytoskeleton by Chlamydia -- Cell-autonomous host defence against Chlamydia infection -- The enigma of long-term infection: are there quiescent or 'persistent' Chlamydia?- Mechanisms of immunopathogenesis during chlamydial infections -- Protective adaptive immune response and prospects for a vaccine -- The hidden genomics of Chlamydia trachomatis.
Sommario/riassunto	The genus Chlamydia encompasses a number of species of obligate intracellular bacteria, including important human pathogens like the most common bacterial agent of sexually transmitted disease. This volume reviews current knowledge of chlamydial biology, covering the unusual structure of the bacteria – which alternate between metabolically almost inactive and fast-dividing forms. It also discusses the ways in which Chlamydia manipulates the host cytoskeleton and subverts the host cell's defence, and illustrates how genomics have begun to uncover the diversity and complexity of chlamydial strains that look very similar but may cause distinct forms of disease. Further,

it describes how techniques are now finally being established that can genetically modify Chlamydia, and discusses why such modification is still very difficult and what progress we can expect. Lastly, it presents our current understanding of chlamydial disease: what do we know about chronic infections, what are the mechanisms of inflammatory damage, and what are the prospects of a vaccine? Written by specialists in these various areas, the book is a valuable work of reference for students and scientists with an interest in the molecular, cellular and immunobiology of these fascinating bacteria.
