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Nota di contenuto	Part 1. Ethics through the ages: 1 . Early period -- 2. Greek period - Sophists and Socrates et al -- 3. Arab period -- 4. Bacon - Bertrand Russell -- 5. Voltaire - Dawkins- McIntyre -- Part 2. Metaphysics, religious- secular perspectives: 6. Analysis of secular and religious thought -- Part 3. Cultural anthropology and medical ethics: 7. Normative principles, autonomy, beneficence, non maleficence and justice -- 8. Universalism or Relativism -- 9. Medical ethics in a pluralistic society -- Part 4. Nomenclature and description: 10. Principles and sources of medical ethics -- 11. Justice: a pillar of ethics. Distributive justice and international clinical trials -- Part 5. The role of ethics in evolution of medicine: 12. Research ethics -- 13. Human experimentation -- 14. The scourge of drug trials -- 15. Human embryonic stem cell research -- 16. Stem cell in cultivation of sensory

organs, curing deafness -- 17. Cybrid. Is science going mad? -- 18. Teaching medical ethics -- Part 6. Reproductive health, ART, IVF, Abortion, Pre-genetic diagnosis (PGD): 19. Assisted Reproductive Technologies -- 20. IVF, Pre genetic diagnosis, termination of pregnancy -- 21. Surrogacy -- Part 7. Managed health care: 22. Rationing. Services within limited resources -- 23. Futility of treatment. Euthanasia -- 24. Therapeutic nihilism -- Part 8. Quality of life issues: 25. Care of the elderly, and QALYS -- 26. Hospices and palliative care -- 27. Controversial pathways , passive euthanasia. Assisted life termination -- 28. Assisted life prolongation and end of life issues -- Part 9. Physicians' oaths: 29. Lessons drawn from Duae Makaram Al Akhlaq -- 30. Hippocratic oath and contemporary faith based oaths.

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## Sommario/riassunto

Medical ethics and the medical profession are inseparable, yet the formal teaching of medical ethics is a relatively new phenomenon. Furthermore, since the introduction of managed health care, with the physician becoming a 'health provider' and the patient a 'client', the whole concept of medical ethics has undergone a sea change. The contractual relationship between the provider and the client engenders caution and precaution, resulting in defensive medicine. This book both presents a succinct history of medical ethics and discusses a wide range of important ethical dilemmas in the provision of modern health care. A synopsis is provided of ethics through the ages and the role of ethics in the evolution of medicine. Principles and sources of medical ethics, as well as different religious and secular perspectives, are explained. Ethical concerns in relation to a variety of specific issues are then examined. These issues include, for example, human experimentation, stem cell research, assisted reproductive technologies, termination of pregnancy, rationing of health care, euthanasia, and quality of life issues. The author's many years of practicing medicine in different cultures and countries and his passion for religious works, philosophy, literature, poetry, history, and anthropology have informed and enriched the contents of this stimulating book.

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