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Nota di contenuto	Introduction to oral premalignant lesions including epidemiology -- Development, relevant anatomy and physiology of the oral cavity and mucosa -- Basic cellular and molecular biology to include the effects of carcinogens (smoking, alcohol, betel nut, HPV, chronic candida) -- Pathophysiology of the transformation from normal mucosa to invasive malignancy (carcinogenesis) including dysplasia -- Leukoplakia including benign lesions -- Erythroplakia and erythroleukoplakia.-The lichenoid group of diseases including erosive and atrophic lichen planus.-Systemic diseases that are potentially pre-cancerous (iron deficiency anaemic, immunosuppression -- Clinical presentation of oral mucosal premalignant lesions (this will be a larger section), and include high and low risk lesions -- Diagnosis including biopsy techniques and other relevant investigations -- Management of premalignant disease of the oral mucosa with up to date clinical trials and adjuvant therapies. Role of surgery, laser treatments -- The future. .
Sommario/riassunto	Oral squamous cell carcinoma (SCC) is the 13th commonest cancer worldwide, and the most common cancer in the Asian subcontinent due to the widespread habit of tobacco and betel nut chewing. Despite many advances in diagnosis and treatment, the survival statistics have only marginally improved. However our understanding of the disease process and transformation from pre-cancerous lesions of the oral mucosa to an invasive SCC cancer and their progression has expanded exponentially. There are many conditions of the oral mucosa that can

progress to an invasive malignancy. A thorough understanding of these conditions is a prerequisite for all those involved in the management of the diseases of the oral mucosa and head and neck region. The recognition and timely treatment of potentially pre-malignant conditions of the oral cavity can minimize the change to an overt malignancy in many patients through patient education, appropriate treatment and surveillance. In this book we cover relevant anatomy, biology, diagnosis and latest management strategies for pre-cancerous conditions that affect the oral mucosa. The respective chapters are written by expert contributors from around the world, lending the book a global perspective and making it an essential guide for all those involved in the management of pre-malignant lesions arising in this challenging anatomical region.
