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Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Contributors -- 1. Power and Illness: Authority, Bodies, and Context / Moss, Pamela / Teghtsoonian, Katherine -- 2. Claiming a Disability Benefit as Contesting Social Citizenship / Prince, Michael J. -- 3. Workers' Compensation and Controversial Illnesses / Lippel, Katherine -- 4. Managing Workplace Depression: Contesting the Contours of Emerging Policy in the Workplace / Teghtsoonian, Katherine -- 5. Contesting Coronary Candidacy: Reframing Risk Modification in Coronary Heart Disease / Angus, Jan -- 6. Hepatitis C and the Dawn of Biological Citizenship: Unravelling the Policy Implications / Orsini, Michael -- 7. Tracing Contours of Contestation in Narratives about Chronic Fatigue Syndrome / Bülow, Pia H. -- 8. Cancer as a Contested Illness: Seeking Help amid Treatment / Purkis, Mary Ellen / Mossel, Catherine Van -- 9. Edging Embodiment and Embodying Categories: Reading Bodies Marked with Myalgic Encephalomyelitis as a Contested Illness / Moss,

Pamela -- 10. Managing the Monstrous Feminine: The Role of Premenstrual Syndrome in the Subjectification of Women / Ussher, Jane M. -- 11. Resisting an Illness Label: Disability, Impairment, and Illness / Stone, Sharon Dale -- 12. The Race and Class Politics of Anorexia Nervosa: Unravelling White, Middle-Class Standards in Representations of Eating Problems / Gremillion, Helen -- 13. 'More Labels Than a Jam Jar': The Gendered Dynamics of Diagnosis for Girls and Women with Autism / Davidson, Joyce -- 14. The Female Sexual Dysfunction Debate: Different 'Problems,' New Drugs - More Pressures? / Potts, Annie -- 15. Moving from Settled to Contested: Transformations in the Anatomic-Politics of Breast Cancer, 1970-1990 / Klawiter, Maren -- 16. Environments, Bodies, and the Cultural Imaginary: Imagining Ecological Impairment / Kroll-Smith, Steve / Kelley, Joshua -- 17. Contestation and Medicalization / Conrad, Peter / Stults, Cheryl -- Index

Sommario/riassunto

The relationship between power and illness is the subject of limited discussion despite it being one of the most important issues in health-related policies and services. In an effort to correct this, *Contesting Illness* engages critically with processes through which the meanings and effects of illness shape and are shaped by specific sets of practices. Featuring original contributions by researchers working in a number of disciplines, this collection examines intersections of power, contestation, and illness with the aid of various critical theoretical frameworks and methodological approaches. The contributors explore experiences of illness, diagnosis, and treatment, and analyse wider discursive and policy contexts within which people become ill and engage with health care systems. Though each essay is unique in its approach, they are linked together by a shared focus on contestation as a conceptual tool in considering the relationship between power and illness. Rather than focus on a single example, the contributors address different contested illnesses (chronic fatigue syndrome and environmental illness, for instance) as well as the contested dimensions of illnesses that are accepted as legitimate such as cancer and autism. *Contesting Illness* offers valuable insights into the assumptions, practices, and interactions that shape illness in the twenty-first century. Contributors: Jan Angus, Pia H. Bülow, Peter Conrad, Joyce Davidson, Helen Gremillion, Maren Klawiter, Joshua Kelley, Steve Kroll-Smith, Katherine Lippel, Pamela Moss, Michael Orsini, Michael J. Prince, Annie Potts, Mary Ellen Purkis, Sharon Dale Stone, Cheryl Stults, Katherine Teghtsoonian, Jane M. Ussher, Catherine van Mossel
