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Sommario/riassunto	FROM THE PREFACE: The original purpose of the First Edition of Physiology of the Gastrointestinal Tract?to collect in one set of volumes the most current and comprehensive knowledge in our field?was also the driving force for the Fourth Edition. The explosion of information at the cellular level, made possible in part by the continued emergence of powerful molecular and cellular techniques, has resulted in a greater degree of revision than that of any other edition. The first section, now titled ""Basic Cell Physiology and Growth of the GI Tract"" contains numerous new chapters o