Record Nr. UNINA9910779202903321 Obesity: epidemiology, pathophysiology, and prevention / / edited by **Titolo** Debasis Bagchi and Harry G. Preuss Boca Raton:,: CRC Press,, 2013

ISBN 0-429-19229-0 1-4398-5426-2

Edizione [2nd ed.]

Pubbl/distr/stampa

Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (993 p.)

Classificazione MED060000MED027000MED078000

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Disciplina 616.3/98

Soggetti Obesity - Epidemiology Obesity - Pathophysiology

Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese

Formato Materiale a stampa

Livello bibliografico Monografia

Note generali Description based upon print version of record.

Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index.

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Sommario/riassunto

The spread of obesity has been declared a worldwide epidemic by the World Health Organization (WHO). In fact, a new term, globesity, has been coined to describe the recent upsurge of overweight and obesity throughout the world's population. How severe is the problem? According to WHO, worldwide obesity has more than double since 1980. In 2008, 1.5 billion adults, 20 and older, were overweight [1]. Of these over 200 million men and 300 million women were obese. 65% of the world's population live in countries where overweight and obesity kills more people than underweight [1]. Furthermore, nearly 43 million children under the age of five were underweight in 2010 [1]--