

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910782465903321
Autore	Leopold Ellen <1944->
Titolo	Under the radar [[electronic resource]] : cancer and the cold war // Ellen Leopold
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New Brunswick, N.J., : Rutgers University Press, 2008
ISBN	1-281-80174-7 9786611801748 0-8135-4565-X
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (300 p.)
Collana	Critical issues in health and medicine
Disciplina	363.738
Soggetti	Cancer - United States - History - 20th century Cobalt - Isotopes - Therapeutic use - United States - History - 20th century Cold War - Health aspects - United States Informed consent (Medical law) - United States Radioactive fallout - United States Radiation carcinogenesis - United States
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.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Preface -- Introduction -- Chapter 1. Double Jeopardy: Cancer and "Cure" -- Chapter 2. The Court Considers Informed Consent -- Chapter 3. The Rise of Radioactive Cobalt -- Chapter 4. The Cobalt Back Story: "A Little of the Buchenwald Touch" -- Chapter 5. Behind the Fallout Controversy: The Public, the Press, and Conflicts of Interest -- Chapter 6. Cancer and Fallout: Science by Circumvention -- Chapter 7. Paradise Lost: Radiation Enters the Mainstream -- Chapter 8. Subdued by the System: Cancer in the Courts, Compensation, and the Changing Concept of Risk -- Chapter 9. Hidden Assassin: The Individual at Fault -- Chapter 10. Experiments by Other Means: Clinical Trials and the Primacy of Treatment over Prevention -- Notes -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	At the end of the Second World War, a diagnosis of cancer was a death sentence. Sixty years later, it is considered a chronic disease rather than one that is invariably fatal. Although survival rates have improved,

the very word continues to evoke a special terror and guilt, inspiring scientists and politicians to wage war against it. In *Under the Radar*, Ellen Leopold shows how nearly every aspect of our understanding and discussion of cancer bears the imprint of its Cold War entanglement. The current biases toward individual rather than corporate responsibility for rising incidence rates, research that promotes treatment rather than prevention, and therapies that can be patented and marketed all reflect a largely hidden history shaped by the Cold War. Even the language we use to describe the disease, such as the guiding metaphor for treatment, "fight fire with fire," can be traced back to the middle of the twentieth century. Writing in a lucid style, Leopold documents the military, governmental, industrial, and medical views of radiation and atomic energy to examine the postwar response to cancer through the prism of the Cold War. She explores the role of radiation in cancer therapies today, using case studies and mammogram screening, in particular, to highlight the surprising parallels. Taking into account a wide array of disciplines, this book challenges our understanding of cancer and how we approach its treatment. Examines the postwar response to cancer through the prism of the Cold War Goes beyond medical science to look at the influence of Cold War policies on the way we think about cancer today Links the experience of postwar cancer patients with the broader evolution of what have become cancer industries Traces the history of human-made radiation as a state-sponsored environmental toxin
