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Nota di contenuto	Foreword / William Carpenter -- The social epidemiology of schizophrenia -- Investigating socioenvironmental influences in schizophrenia: conceptual and design issues / Michaeline Bresnahan, Ezra Susser -- Geographical variation in incidence, course and outcome of schizophrenia: a comparison of developing and developed countries / Michaeline Bresnahan, Paulo Menezes, Vijoy Varma, Ezra Susser -- Temporal variation in the incidence, course and outcome of schizophrenia / Michaeline Bresnahan, Jane Boydell, Robin Murray, Ezra Susser -- Urbanization, migration and risk of schizophrenia / Jane Boydell, Robin Murray -- The developmental epidemiology of schizophrenia -- Prenatal and perinatal risk factors for schizophrenia / Mary Cannon, Robert Kendell, Ezra Susser, Peter Jones -- Childhood development and later schizophrenia: evidence from genetic high-risk

and birth cohort studies / Mary Cannon, C. Jane Tarrant, Matti O. Huttunen, Peter Jones -- Prodrome, onset and early course of schizophrenia / Heinz Hafner -- The value of first-episode studies in schizophrenia / Mary Clarke, Eadbhard O'Callaghan -- Schizophrenia at the extremes of life / Kenneth G.D. Orr, David J. Castle -- The genetic epidemiology of schizophrenia -- The 'classical' genetic epidemiology of schizophrenia / Alastair Cardno, Robin M. Murray -- Molecular genetics and epidemiology in schizophrenia: a necessary partnership / Stanley Zammit, Glyn Lewis, Michael J. Owen -- Gene-environment correlation and interaction in schizophrenia / Jim van Os, Pak Sham.

Sommario/riassunto

An international team of leading researchers and clinicians here provide a comprehensive, epidemiological overview of this multi-faceted and still perplexing disorder, and address some of the key questions it raises. How important is the genetic contribution to schizophrenia? Do pregnancy and birth complications increase the risk for schizophrenia? Is the incidence of schizophrenia changing? Why is the rate higher among immigrants and in those born in cities? Controversial issues such as the validity of discrete or dimensional classifications of schizophrenia and the continuum between psychosis and 'normality' are explored in depth, and separate chapters are devoted to topics of particular relevance to schizophrenia such as suicide, violence and substance abuse. Finally, new prospects for treatment and prevention are considered. Drawing together the findings from social, genetic, developmental and classical epidemiology of schizophrenia, this text will prove an invaluable resource for clinicians and researchers.
