Record Nr.	UNINA9910791070503321
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Titolo	Lupus : the essential clinician's guide / / Daniel J. Wallace
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New York : , : Oxford University Press, , 2014 ©2014
ISBN	0-19-938964-0 0-19-938949-7
Edizione	[Second edition.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (130 p.)
Collana	Oxford American rheumatology library
Disciplina	616.7/72
Soggetti	Lupus erythematosus
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 at the end of each chapters and index.
Nota di contenuto	Cover; Lupus The Essential Clinician's Guide; Copyright; Contents; Chapter 1 The History of Lupus; Chapter 2 Definitions and Classification; Chapter 3 Epidemiology of Systemic Lupus Erythematosus; Chapter 4 Pathogenesis; Chapter 5 Clinical Symptoms and Signs; Chapter 6 Laboratory and Imaging Abnormalities; Chapter 7 Differential Diagnosis and Disease Associations; Chapter 8 Important Subsets and Special Considerations; Chapter 9 Methods of Clinical Ascertainment; Chapter 10 General Treatment Concepts; Chapter 11 Medications Used to Manage Lupus Erythematosus Chapter 12 Economic Impact and Disability IssuesChapter 13 Prognosis; Chapter 14 Experimental and Innovative Therapies; Glossary; Appendix; Index
Sommario/riassunto	One million people in the United States suffer from systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE or lupus), a chronic autoimmune disease that is potentially debilitating and sometimes fatal as the immune system attacks the body's cells and tissue, resulting in inflammation and tissue damage. SLE can affect any part of the body, but most often damages the heart, joints, skin, lungs, blood vessels, liver, kidneys and nervous system. The course of the disease is unpredictable, with periods of illness alternating with remission. It can be treated symptomatically, mainly with corticosteroids and immunosuppres

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