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Titolo	Childcare, health and mortality at the London Foundling Hospital, 1741-1800 : "Left to the mercy of the world" // Alysa Levene
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Manchester : , : Manchester University Press, , 2007
ISBN	1-5261-3042-4
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xi, 223 pages) : illustrations
Disciplina	362.7320942142
Soggetti	Foundlings - Services for - England - London - History - 18th century Foundlings - Health and hygiene - England - London - History - 20th century
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (pages [211]-219) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Introduction -- The characteristics of foundlings -- Risks of death : the estimation of mortality -- Survival prospects -- The nursing network90 -- Growing up as a foster child -- Childcare and health in a local setting -- Foundlings and the local demographic context -- Conclusions.
Sommario/riassunto	This book is a thorough and engaging examination of an institution and its young charges, set in the wider social, cultural, demographic and medical context of the eighteenth century. By examining the often short lives of abandoned babies, the book illustrates the variety of pathways to health, ill-health and death taken by the young and how it intersected with local epidemiology, institutional life and experiences of abandonment, feeding and child-care. For the first time, the characteristics of the babies abandoned to the London Foundling Hospital have been examined, highlighting the reasons parents and guardians had for giving up their charges. Clearly presented statistical analysis shows how these characteristics interacted with poverty and welfare to influence health and survivorship across infancy and early childhood. The book builds up sources from Foundling Hospital records, medical tracts and parish registers to illustrate how the hospital managed the care of its children, and how it reflected wider medical ideas on feeding and child health. Child fostering, paid nursing and family formation in different parts of England are also examined,

showing how this metropolitan institution called on a network of contacts to try to raise its charges to good health. This book will be of considerable significance to scholars working in economic and social history, medical and institutional history and histories of childhood and childcare in the early modern period. It will also be of interest to anthropologists interested in child-rearing and feeding practices, and inter-family relationships
