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Nota di contenuto	1. Power and Illness: Authority, Bodies, and Context / Pamela Moss And Katherine Teghtsoonian -- 2. Claiming a Disability Benefit as Contesting Social Citizenship / Michael J. Prince -- 3. Workers' Compensation and Controversial Illnesses / Katherine Lippel -- 4. Managing Workplace Depression: Contesting the Contours of Emerging Policy in the Workplace / Katherine Teghtsoonian -- 5. Contesting Coronary Candidacy: Reframing Risk Modification in Coronary Heart Disease / Jan Angus -- 6. Hepatitis C and the Dawn of Biological Citizenship: Unravelling the Policy Implications / Michael Orsini -- 7. Tracing Contours of Contestation in Narratives about Chronic Fatigue Syndrome / Pia H. Bolow -- 8. Cancer as a Contested Illness: Seeking Help amid Treatment / Mary Ellen Purkis And Catherine Van Mossel -- 9. Edging Embodiment and Embodying Categories: Reading Bodies Marked with Myalgic Encephalomyelitis as a Contested Illness / Pamela Moss -- 10. Managing the Monstrous Feminine: The Role of

Premenstrual Syndrome in the Subjectification of Women / Jane M. Ussher -- 11. Resisting an Illness Label: Disability, Impairment, and Illness / Sharon Dale Stone -- 12. The Race and Class Politics of Anorexia Nervosa: Unravelling White, Middle-Class Standards in Representations of Eating Problems / Helen Gremillion -- 13. 'More Labels Than a Jam Jar': The Gendered Dynamics of Diagnosis for Girls and Women with Autism / Joyce Davidson -- 14. The Female Sexual Dysfunction Debate: Different 'Problems, ' New Drugs -- More Pressures? / Annie Potts -- 15. Moving from Settled to Contested: Transformations in the Anato-Politics of Breast Cancer, 1970-1990 / Maren Klawiter -- 16. Environments, Bodies, and the Cultural Imaginary: Imagining Ecological Impairment / Steve Kroll-Smith And Joshua Kelley -- 17. Contestation and Medicalization / Peter Conrad And Cheryl Stults -- Index.

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## Sommario/riassunto

The relationship between power and illness is the subject of limited discussion despite it being one of the most important issues in health-related policies and services. In an effort to correct this, *Contesting Illness* engages critically with processes through which the meanings and effects of illness shape and are shaped by specific sets of practices. Featuring original contributions by researchers working in a number of disciplines, this collection examines intersections of power, contestation, and illness with the aid of various critical theoretical frameworks and methodological approaches. The contributors explore experiences of illness, diagnosis, and treatment, and analyse wider discursive and policy contexts within which people become ill and engage with health care systems. Though each essay is unique in its approach, they are linked together by a shared focus on contestation as a conceptual tool in considering the relationship between power and illness. Rather than focus on a single example, the contributors address different contested illnesses (chronic fatigue syndrome and environmental illness, for instance) as well as the contested dimensions of illnesses that are accepted as legitimate such as cancer and autism. *Contesting Illness* offers valuable insights into the assumptions, practices, and interactions that shape illness in the twenty-first century.

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