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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Blood transfusion before the Second World War -- Blood transfusion from 1945 to independence -- Blood transfusion in independent African countries -- Who got blood? : indications for the use of blood transfusion, 1945/2000 -- Who gave blood? -- Blood transfusion and health risk before and after the AIDS epidemic -- African blood transfusion in the context of global health.
Sommario/riassunto	This first extensive study of the practice of blood transfusion in Africa traces the history of one of the most important therapies in modern medicine from the period of colonial rule to independence and the AIDS epidemic. The introduction of transfusion held great promise for improving health, but like most new medical practices, transfusion needed to be adapted to the needs of sub-Saharan Africa, for which there was no analogous treatment in traditional African medicine. This otherwise beneficent medical procedure also created a "royal road" for microorganisms, and thus played a central