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Sommario/riassunto	Degenerative aortic valve disease is the most prominent cardiac valve disease in Western societies. This volume describes some of the more important issues and problems for this condition: its progressive character and the underlying mechanisms of this progression diagnostic difficulties 1) ascertainment of valvular origin of symptoms in elderly; 2) the challenge of the low output - low gradient syndrome; 3) moderate aortic valve calcification during CABG; 4) prediction of the rate of progression (who will need surgery on short term and who not).