

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910825150603321
Autore	Rothfield Lawrence <1956->
Titolo	Vital signs [[electronic resource]] : medical realism in nineteenth-century fiction // Lawrence Rothfield
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Princeton, N.J., : Princeton University Press, c1992
ISBN	1-4008-1782-X 1-4008-1322-0 1-282-75156-5 9786612751561 1-4008-2068-5
Edizione	[Course Book]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (254 p.)
Collana	Literature in history
Disciplina	823/.809356
Soggetti	English fiction - 19th century - History and criticism Medicine in literature French fiction - 19th century - History and criticism Comparative literature - English and French Comparative literature - French and English Physicians in literature Realism in literature
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 (p. [193]-226) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- CONTENTS -- ACKNOWLEDGMENTS -- PREFACE -- ONE. Medicine and Mimesis: The Contours of a Configuration -- TWO. Disarticulating Madame Bovary: Flaubert and the Medicalization of the Real -- THREE. Paradigms and Professionalism: Balzacian Realism in Discursive Context -- FOUR. "A New Organ of Knowledge": Medical Organicism and the Limits of Realism in Middlemarch -- FIVE. On the Realism/Naturalism Distinction: Some Archaeological Considerations -- SIX. From Diagnosis to Deduction: Sherlock Holmes and the Perversion of Realism -- SEVEN. The Pathological Perspective: Clinical Realism's Decline and the Emergence of Modernist Counter-Discourse -- EPILOGUE. Toward a New Historicist Methodology -- NOTES -- INDEX
Sommario/riassunto	Vital Signs offers both a compelling reinterpretation of the nineteenth-

century novel and a methodological challenge to literary historians. Rejecting theories that equate realism with representation, Lawrence Rothfield argues that literary history forms a subset of the history of discourses and their attendant practices. He shows how clinical medicine provided Balzac, Flaubert, Eliot, and others with narrative strategies, epistemological assumptions, and models of professional authority. He also traces the linkages between medicine's eventual decline in scientific and social status and realism's displacement by naturalism, detective fiction, and modernism.
