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Autore	Ellner Paul D.
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Nota di contenuto	The forensic microbiologist as an expert -- How the process starts -- The arena -- Civil proceedings 101 -- Basics of tort law -- Duties of the expert witness -- Obtaining experimental evidence -- The analytical process -- Reports and affidavits -- Depositions -- The trial -- Cases involving laboratory errors -- Medical malpractice -- The nonphysician in medical malpractice litigation -- Food poisoning cases -- Product liability cases -- Corporate disputes -- Other tort cases -- Working as a litigation consultant -- Cases not taken -- Business aspects -- How trial lawyers can improve the use of the expert -- Evolution of expert witnesses.
Sommario/riassunto	Ellner (emeritus microbiology and pathology, Columbia U.) has testified in over 80 cases, and loves the activity not because it fulfills civil duty or pursues justice, but because it allows him to convince the court that the science he has devoted his life to is true and relevant to the case. He offers advice to others considering the same path, warning that the work is intensive. He focuses on microbiology, that being his specialty, but his experience should apply to most any biomedical scientist.