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Nota di contenuto	Intro -- IRRITABLE BOWEL SYNDROME -- Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data -- Contents -- About the Authors -- Preface -- Chapter I The Maestro, The Artist, The Administrator and The Student -- Abstract -- 1.1. The Maestro -- 1.2. The Artist -- 1.3. The Administrator -- 1.4. The Student -- 1.5. Comments -- References -- Chapter II Symptoms, Incidence and Prevalence -- Abstract -- References -- Chapter III Diagnosis -- Abstract -- References -- Chapter IV Pathogenesis of Irritable Bowel Syndrome -- Abstract -- 4.1. Psychological Factors -- 4.2. Heritability and Environmental and Social Learning -- 4.2.1. Familial Aggregation -- 4.2.2. Twin Studies -- 4.2.3. Genetic Studies -- 4.2.4. Environment and Social Learning -- 4.3. Dietary Factors -- 4.3.1. Diet Intake in IBS Patients -- 4.3.2. Food Allergy/Intolerance in IBS Patients? -- 4.3.3. Fermentable Oligo-, Di- and Monosaccharides and Polyols -- 4.3.4. Dietary Fibre -- 4.4. Intestinal Flora -- 4.5. Low-Grade Inflammation -- 4.6. Abnormalities in the Neuroendocrine System (NES) of the Gut in IBS -- 4.6.1. The NES of the Gut -- 4.4.2. Abnormalities in the NES of the Gut in IBS Patients -- 4.5. Hypothesis -- References -- Chapter V Post-Infectious and Inflammatory Bowel Disease Associated Irritable Bowel Syndrome -- Abstract -- Introduction -- 5.1. Post-Infectious Irritable Bowel Syndrome (PI-IBS) -- 5.1.1. Risk factors for developing of PI-IBS -- 5.1.2. Low-Grade Inflammation in PI-IBS -- 5.1.3. Abnormality in the Neuroendocrine System of the Gut in PI-IBS -- 5.2. Inflammatory Bowel

Disease Associated Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IA-IBS) -- 5.2.1.
Abnormalities in the Neuroendocrine System of the Gut in IBD -- 5.3.
The Pathogenesis of PI- and IBD-IBS -- References -- Chapter VI
Treatment Options -- Abstract -- Introduction -- 6.1. Non-
Pharmacological Approaches.
6.1.1. Information and Reassurance -- 6.1.2. Dietary Guidance and
Regular Exercise -- 6.1. 3. Probiotics -- 6.1.4. Combined Programme
-- 6.1.5. Psychological Treatment -- 6.1.5.1. Gut-Directed
Hypnotherapy -- 6.1.5.2. Cognitive Behaviour, Psychodynamic
Interpersonal Therapies and Relaxation Training -- 6.2.
Pharmacological Approaches -- 6.2.1. Symptomatic Treatment --
6.2.2. The Use of Gut Neuroendocrine Peptides/Amines in
theTreatment of IBS -- 6.3. Other Treatment Options -- 6.3.1.
Acupuncture -- 6.3.2. Herbal Therapy -- References -- Chapter VII
Concluding Remarks -- Abstract -- References -- Index.

Sommario/riassunto

Irritable bowel syndrome (IBS) is common and affects 5 to 20% of individuals worldwide. Physicians with various specialties and at different settings are bound to meet these patients. This book is written by clinicians with long experience with IBS patients at different settings that have performed active research on IBS from different angles. Topics discussed include the prevalence and incidence of IBS worldwide, symptoms and consequences for patients and the society; IBS symptom based diagnosis; pathogenesis and the different possible aetiological factors; a new hypothesis for the pathogenesis of IBS; post-infectious and inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) associated IBS and treatment options, both non-pharmacological and pharmacological. This book does not only contain up to date data, but also included are the authors' points of view and their argument in several debated issues in IBS.
