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Nota di contenuto	The Artificial Heart -- Copyright -- Acknowledgments -- Preface -- Contents -- The Artificial Heart -- Executive Summary -- TECHNOLOGICAL PROGRESS AND BARRIERS -- MAKING DECISIONS ABOUT FUTURE RESEARCH -- CLINICAL EFFECTIVENESS -- PROJECTED PATIENT NEED -- HEALTH-RELATED QUALITY OF LIFE -- COST-EFFECTIVENESS -- APPROPRIATENESS OF USE OF MECHANICAL CIRCULATORY SUPPORT -- PATIENT ACCESS TO MCSSS -- ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS -- RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT POLICY ISSUES -- REGULATORY DECISIONS ABOUT NEW TECHNOLOGIES -- DEVELOPMENT OF TOTAL ARTIFICIAL HEARTS -- CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT OF VENTRICULAR ASSIST DEVICES -- ADDITIONAL RESEARCH -- USING THIS REPORT -- 1 The Artificial Heart Program: Current Status and

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Sommario/riassunto

A significant medical event is expected in 1992: the first human use of a fully implantable, long-term cardiac assist device. This timely volume reviews the artificial heart program--and in particular, the National Institutes of Health's major investment--raising important questions. The volume includes: Consideration of the artificial heart versus heart transplantation and other approaches to treating end-stage heart disease, keeping in mind the different outcomes and costs of these treatments. A look at human issues, including the number of people who may require the artificial heart, patient quality of life, and other ethical and societal questions. Examination of how this technology's use can be targeted most appropriately. Attention to achieving access to this technology for all those who can benefit from it. The committee also offers three mechanisms to aid in allocating research and development funds.
