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Nota di contenuto	NOVEL INFECTIOUS AGENTSANDTHE CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM; Contents; Participants; Introduction; The clinical neurology and epidemiology of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, with special reference to iatrogenic cases; Neuropathology of unconventional virus infections: molecu lar pathology of spongiform change and amyloid plaque deposit ion; Pathogenesis of experimental scrapie; Genetic aspects of unconventional virus infections: the basis of the virino hypothesis; Genetic control of prion incubation period in mice; Developmental regulation of prion protein mRNA in brain Potential involvement of retroviral elements in human dementiasScrapie: a virus-induced amyloidosis of the brain; Scrapie-

	associated fibrils, PrP protein and the Sinc gene; A modified host protein model of scrapie; Properties of scrapie prion proteins in liposomes and amyloid rods; In vitro expression of cloned PrP cDNA derived from scrapie-infected mouse brain: lack of transmission of scrapie infectivity; Search for a scrapie-specific nucleic acid: a progress report; Pathogenesis of amyloid formation in Alzheimer's disease, Down's syndrome and scrapie Novel mechanisms of degeneration of the central newous system - prion structure and biologyFinal general discussion; Summary; Index of contributors; Subject index
Sommario/riassunto	The term ``unconventional virus'' refers to virus-like agents that differ from conventional viruses in significant respects--resistance to agents that inactivate normal viruses, for example. Certain rare and fatal neurological disorders, such as the Creutzfeldt-Jacob syndrome and the Gerstmann-Straussler syndrome, are clearly produced by virus-like infectious agents, but the nature of these agents is not understood. This volume brings together the latest information on one such disease: Scrapie, a disease occurring in sheep. It discusses the nature of this infectious agent and insights gained