

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9911143830003321
Autore	Webster Robert G. <1932->
Titolo	Flu hunter : unlocking the secrets of a virus / / Robert G. Webster
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Dunedin, New Zealand : , : Otago University Press, , 2018
ISBN	9781988531410 1988531411 9781988531403 1988531403
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource : illustrations (some color), color maps
Disciplina	616.203019
Soggetti	Influenza - History - 20th century Epidemics - History - 20th century Avian influenza Disasters Influenza - Epidemiology
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Foreword / by Lance Jennings -- Emergence of the monster: Spanish influenza, 1918 -- The start of influenza research -- From seabirds in Australlia to Tamiflu -- The search moves to wild ducks in Canada -- Delaware Bay: the right place at the right time -- Proving interspecies transmission -- Virologists visit China -- Hong Kong hotbed: live bird markets and pig processing -- Searching the world, 1975-95 -- The smoking gun -- Bird flu: the rise and spread of H5N1 -- The first pandemic of the 21st century -- SARS, and a second bird flu outbreak -- Digging for answers on the 1918 Spanish influenza -- Resurrecting the 1918 Spanish influenza -- Opening Pandora's Box -- Looking to the future: are we better prepared.
Sommario/riassunto	"When a new influenza virus emerges that is able to be transmitted between humans, it spreads globally as a pandemic, often with high mortality. Enormous social disruption and substantial economic cost can result. The 1918 Spanish influenza pandemic was undoubtedly the most devastating influenza pandemic to date, and it has been Dr

Robert Webster's life's work to figure out how and why. In so doing he has made a remarkable contribution to our understanding of the evolution of influenza viruses and how to control them. A century on, Flu Hunter is a gripping account of the tenacious scientific detective work involved in revealing the secrets of this killer virus. Dubbed 'Flu Hunter' by Smithsonian Magazine in 2006, Dr Webster began his research in the early 1960s with the insight that the natural ecology of most influenza viruses is among wild aquatic birds. Painstaking tracking and testing of thousands of birds eventually led him and the other scientists involved to establish a link between these bird virus 'reservoirs' and human influenza pandemics. Some of this fascinating scientific work involved exhuming bodies of Spanish flu victims from the Arctic permafrost in a search for tissue samples containing genetic material from the virus" --Publisher.
