



their potential and pitfalls. It is a sobering view of the promise such systems holds, limitations in their current forms, and what obstacles must be overcome to make them truly effective. This is educational, inspiring, and a wake-up call to those in the public health community, as well as those concerned about effectively identifying and managing future outbreaks.

The book follows a natural sequence from theory to application. The initial chapters build a foundation while subsequent chapters present more applied case studies from around the world, including China, the United States, Denmark, and the Asia-Pacific region. The contributors share candid, first-hand insights on lessons learned and unresolved issues that will help chart the future of biosurveillance. As this book illustrates, biosurveillance operates in a complex, multidimensional problem space that incorporates varied data. Capturing the progress of modern-day pioneers who are walking in John Snow's footsteps, this volume shows how contemporary information technology can be applied to the age-old challenge of combating the spread of disease and illness.