Understanding Cystic Fibrosis (Understanding Health and Sickness Series)

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Cystic Fibrosis (CF) is the most common genetic disorder in the white population. Since the discovery of the CF gene in 1989, scientists have learned a great deal about the biology of this disease, which strikes one child in every 3.300 births. With the gene pinpointed, scientists are now working on ways to replace it and are developing better tests for early diagnosis.

Understanding Cystic Fibrosis charts the progress that has been made in identifying the mutations that cause CF and in understanding how these genetic errors cause a disease whose symptoms can range from mild respiratory distress to life-threatening lung infections.

This book features a review of current available treatments; research that can lead to therapies and perhaps a cure; advice and resources for families and patients; how to work best with health-care providers and HMOs; the history and diagnosis of CF; who gets CF and why; how CF affects the lungs, intestines, and other organs; and a list of organizations, support groups, and resources.

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