

Ravi Kumar, Ph.D.

President and CEO, Board Member

Dr. Ravi Kumar has served as the President and CEO since 2014. He founded ARKAY with a mission to provide long-term glycemic control to Type II diabetes patients. Dr. Kumar has a unique combination of expertise in metabolic, cardiovascular and chronic inflammatory diseases.

He developed the scientific rationale, the product concept and the clinical development strategies for RK-01. Since Type II diabetes runs in his family, he knows first-hand the challenges of diabetes patients, limitations of the currently marketed drugs and more importantly the devastating consequences of diabetes-related complications.

Dr. Kumar developed the scientific rationale, the product concept and the clinical development strategies for RK-01. He has also served as the Scientific Director since 2014. Dr. Kumar is the inventor of the U.S. and PCT patent applications titled "Formulations and Methods for Treating Metabolic Syndrome."

Dr. Kumar has distinguished experience in academia as well in the pharmaceutical industry. As a recipient of research grants from the American Heart Association, he cloned and characterized the Angiotensin-converting enzyme at The Cleveland Clinic Foundation. ACE inhibitors are widely used for the clinical management of high blood pressure and hypertension.

He obtained M.S. and Ph.D. in Molecular and Cell Biology from New York University, an executive Mini-MBA in Bio-Pharma Innovation from Rutgers University, and a certification for GCP (Good Clinical Practice) from ACRP (Association of Clinical Research Professionals). Prior to his 25 year career in the pharmaceutical industry, Dr. Kumar was a Research Fellow at The Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Cleveland, OH.

During the course of his career, Dr. Kumar has held roles of increasing responsibility in small-to-medium-to-large pharmaceutical companies including Pfizer, Pharmacia Corporation and OSI Pharmaceuticals. He has relentlessly pursued excellence in proposing new ideas and developing new hypotheses to discover and develop innovative drugs for metabolic diseases and chronic inflammatory diseases. Dr. Kumar has served as either a project leader or co-project leader of several drug discovery and development projects in Type II Diabetes, Atherosclerosis, Obesity, and Chronic Inflammatory Diseases. Some of the projects include: 'beta-cell centric' therapies, inhibitors of insulin-dependent hepatic gluconeogenesis, incretin mimetics, PPAR agonists, CRF-2R activators, activators of ApoA1, inhibitors of apo(a), inhibitors of Scavenger receptor, inhibitors of TNF-alpha, inhibitors of mPGES-1 (safer Celebrex™), TLR4 blockers, inhibitors of iNOS, FXR activators etc.