Meet Our Founder, President, & CEO

Dr. Ravi Kumar has been 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 TriGlytza™. Since Type 2 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 is the inventor of ARKAY's patent (US 9,839,644 B2) issued by the USPTO titled "Formulations and Methods for Treating Metabolic Syndrome."

Dr. Kumar is a subject matter expert (SME) in Translational Medicine and Clinical Development. He has distinguished experience in academia as well in the pharmaceutical industry. He developed the clinical biomarker strategy for the RESILIENCE T2D clinical trial (NCT03686657). As a recipient of research grants from the American Heart Association, he cloned and characterized the Angiotensin-converting enzyme (ACE) at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation. ACE inhibitors are widely used for the clinical management of high blood pressure and hypertension. ACE2 serves as the receptor for the SARS-CoV-2 virus (COVID-19).

During the course of his career, Dr. Kumar has held roles of increasing responsibility in small-to-medium-to-large pharmaceutical companies including Pfizer and Purdue Pharma. He has relentlessly pursued excellence in proposing new ideas and developing new hypotheses for discovering and developing innovative drugs for metabolic, cardiovascular and chronic inflammatory diseases. Dr. Kumar has served as either a project leader or co-project leader of several R&D projects in Type 2 Diabetes, Cardiovascular disease, Obesity, and Chronic Inflammatory Diseases. Some of the projects include: inhibitors of insulin-dependent hepatic gluconeogenesis, GLP-1R agonists, PPAR agonists, activators of Adiponectin, 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.

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 more than three decades career in the pharmaceutical industry, Dr. Kumar was a Research Fellow at The Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Cleveland, OH.