

RISE Talks Series

- Who?** Maria Luisa Garcia: Chemistry, Biochemistry, Molecular Biology, Senior Distinguished Investigator
- What?** Targeting the Inward-Rectifier Potassium Channel ROMK in Cardiovascular Disease
- When?** 12:00-1:00 on Thursday, March 29
- Where?** Hall of Sciences, Room 326

Despite the large number of anti-hypertensive agents, many patients do not achieve blood pressure goals. New insights from human genetics into mechanisms associated with blood pressure regulation has identified the renal outer medullary potassium channel, ROMK, as a target of interest for the development of novel diuretics for the treatment of hypertension and/or congestive heart failure. In this lecture, a case study on the discovery of MK-7145, a potent and selective ROMK inhibitor that has entered clinical development will be presented.

Bio:

Maria Luisa Garcia received her BS and PhD in chemistry/biochemistry from the Autonoma University of Madrid, Spain, and did post-doctoral training at the Roche Institute of Molecular Biology, Nutley, NJ, in the laboratory of Professor H. R. Kaback, and at Mount Sinai Hospital, New York, NY, with Professor T. Krulwich, before joining Merck Research Laboratories. She was a member of the department of Ion Channels from where she retired as Distinguished Senior Investigator. Dr. Garcia is a senior or contributing author on more than 200 scientific articles in peer review journals, and 14 issued patents, and has served as member of Editorial Board of several scientific journals.