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Glucokinase and Glycemic Disease: From Basics to Novel Therapeutics

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M.A. Magnuson Nashville, Tenn.

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Franz M. Matschinsky, MD  
Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics and  
Diabetes Research Center, University of Pennsylvania  
Medical Center, Philadelphia, Pa., USA

Mark A. Magnuson, MD  
Department of Molecular Physiology and Biophysics  
Vanderbilt University School of Medicine  
Nashville, Tenn., USA

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This book was motivated by the desire of both the editors and other scientists who have had a lifelong interest in glucokinase to bring together, in one source, a condensed summary of our knowledge about this enzyme.

We were motivated to collect this information, at this point in time, by the discovery of glucokinase-activating compounds. We hope that this text will help others to translate this discovery into something of benefit for the many people who suffer from diabetes.

Our hope is that this text does not reflect the high watermark for the interest in glucokinase. Rather, we both believe that there is additional knowledge of fundamental importance that remains to be discovered. Indeed, the discovery of glucokinase-activating compounds opens a vast new arena of potential therapeutics, the actual impact of which is yet to unfold.

We thank Hoffman-LaRoche, Inc., for the financial support that made publishing this text possible, and Joe Grippio and Joe Grimsby for sharing the excitement of discovering the glucokinase-activating compound. We also thank Vesselina Panteva for assistance throughout this project.

Lastly, we also thank our wives, Elke Matschinsky and Lucile Houseworth, for their undying support of our academic interests and sometimes seemingly eccentric tendencies. Without their support, our accomplishments would have certainly been both more difficult and less satisfying.

Franz M. Matschinsky
Mark A. Magnuson