

## Editor



### Professor Peter Sever

Professor of Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics  
International Centre for Circulatory Health, Imperial College London, UK

Peter Sever is Professor of Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics at Imperial College London, Honorary Consultant Physician at St Mary's Hospital, London, and Director of the International Centre for Circulatory Health. He is a past-president of the British Hypertension Society and the European Council for Blood Pressure and Cardiovascular Research, and is also a Fellow of the European Society of Cardiology and Chairman of the Fellowships Committee of the British Heart Foundation. Professor Sever is co-editor of the *Journal of the Renin-Angiotensin-Aldosterone System (JRAAS)* and a principal investigator of a number of landmark trials in hypertension including the Anglo-Scandinavian Cardiac Outcomes Trial (ASCOT). He has extensive research interests including the renin system and its blockade.

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**The first new class of  
antihypertensive drugs for >10 years**

**New Perspectives on Hypertension**

**Direct Renin Inhibition**



**Peter Sever**  
Editor

## A comprehensive introduction to an important new class of antihypertensive drugs: Direct renin inhibitors

The direct renin inhibitors are the first significant new class of antihypertensive drugs to become available for more than a decade.

The concept of direct inhibition of renin – the rate limiting step in the renin-angiotensin-aldosterone cascade – has been well established for many years. However, the clinical introduction of renin inhibitors has been delayed by technical difficulties.

These have been overcome and the imminent introduction of the first direct renin inhibitor, aliskiren, is eagerly anticipated.

Despite the wealth of medications available to treat hypertension, research confirms that the majority of patients do not achieve adequate blood pressure control. Meanwhile, discontinuation of medications because of lack of efficacy and/or poor tolerability is common. Thus, new agents that are effective and well tolerated are needed.

The renin system is a particularly important target for future therapy. Evidence showing its involvement in the pathophysiology of cardiovascular and renal disease is highlighted in this new book.

## About *New Perspectives on Hypertension: Direct Renin Inhibition*

This up-to-date book provides healthcare professionals with a comprehensive introduction to this important new therapeutic option for treating hypertension. It includes the following chapters:

### Introduction Optimal inhibition of the renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system

#### Section I RAAS blockade today

- The critical importance of inhibition of the renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system in reducing cardiovascular risk
- The role of the renin system in chronic kidney disease and diabetes: are current treatment strategies effective?
- The pharmacological basis for improved blockade of the renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system

#### Section 2 Direct inhibition of renin

- Towards an understanding of the renin system: an historical review
- Renin, prorenin and the putative (pro)renin receptor

#### Section 3 Aliskiren: The first direct renin inhibitor

- The pharmacology and pharmacokinetics of aliskiren
- Clinical pharmacology of aliskiren

### Contributors include:

Dr Michel Azizi  
Professor Friedrich Luft

Professor Domenic Sica  
Dr Jan Danser  
Professor Norman Hollenberg

Professor Luis Ruilope  
Professor Thomas Unger

### Renin inhibition: multiple effects optimizing RAAS suppression

