

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Provide the following information for the key personnel and other significant contributors in the order listed on Form Page 2.
Follow this format for each person. **DO NOT EXCEED FOUR PAGES.**

NAME Kota, Smitha J.	POSITION TITLE Research Assistant III		
eRA COMMONS USER NAME			
EDUCATION/TRAINING <i>(Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, and include postdoctoral training.)</i>			
INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE <i>(if applicable)</i>	YEAR(s)	FIELD OF STUDY
Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, FL	B.S	2001	Biology: Biotechnology
Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, FL	M.S	2003	Biology

A. Positions and Honors.

Research Assistant III, Scripps-Florida, May 2005 to present. Modulation of Hepatitis C protein–protein interactions. Assay development for Hepatitis C protein interactions using Homogeneous Time Resolved Fluorescence assay technology. PI – Dr.A. Donny Strosberg, Department of Infectology, Scripps-Florida, Jupiter, Florida.

Research Associate, Florida Atlantic University, July 2003 to May 2005. Mutagenesis of Tissue inhibitor of matrix metalloproteinases for selective inhibition of matrix metalloproteinases. PI – Dr. Keith Brew, College of Biomedical Sciences, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, Florida.

Research Assistant, Florida Atlantic University, December 2000 to December 2002. Expression of tear lipocalin in rabbit lacrimal gland and lacrimal acinar cells. PI- Dr. Ana Maria Azzarolo, College of Biomedical Sciences, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, Florida.

B. Selected peer-reviewed publications.

1. Wei S, Kashiwagi M, **Kota S**, Xie Z, Nagase H, Brew K. Reactive site mutations in tissue inhibitor of metalloproteinase-3 disrupt inhibition of matrix metalloproteinases but not tumor necrosis factor- α - converting enzyme. *J Biol Chem*. 2005 Sep 23;280 (38):32877-82. Epub 2005 Aug 3
2. Azzarolo AM, Brew K, **Kota S**, Ponomareva O, Schwartz J, Zylberberg C. Presence of tear lipocalin and other major proteins in lacrimal fluid of rabbits. *Comp Biochem Physiol B Biochem Mol Biol*. 2004 Jun; 138(2):111-7.

C. Research Support.

None.