Repository Spotlight – Dr. Doug Feinstein

Dr. Doug Feinstein, University of Illinois – Genetic factors are known to influence the risk of developing MS. Dr. Feinstein’s research is focused on genetic variations as risk factors for MS. Specifically, he is studying changes in a specific gene called SNPs (single nucleotide polymorphisms) that show a significant association with MS in women. Interestingly, cells in the immune system with this gene are more sensitive to Metformin (a drug commonly used to treat type II Diabetes). This research will shed light on a genetic risk factor for RRMS in women, and provide a biomarker for possible treatment with Metformin for female MS patients who have this gene to reduce their immune response.