

Accelerated Cure Project for MS

May 2018



Accelerating research towards a cure for multiple sclerosis

Repository Spotlight - Dr. Tom Aune, Vanderbilt University

The identification of biomarkers characteristic of MS may aid in its diagnosis. Diagnosis in early stages of the disease would be facilitated by an accurate blood test. This is key to timely initiation of treatment in order to minimize disease progression and onset of disability. Dr. Aune is studying gene expression (specifically, transcriptional changes) in subjects with MS and healthy controls. His research is focused on individual biomarkers that may provide insight into abnormal gene expression seen in MS. Dr. Aune's previous work has already resulted in a simple *in vitro* diagnostic blood test for MS with high sensitivity and specificity. This approach may have diagnostic utility not only for MS but also for other clinically complex diseases. Dr. Aune's study is just one of more than one hundred studies using ACP Repository samples to advance and accelerate research into MS.

