**Update: Sativex**

*Sativex* (Nabiximols) is a cannabis extract mouth spray that is approved for the treatment of MS-related spasticity in Canada, New Zealand, and several European countries. FDA approval is pending in the United States. Recent research in Europe has shed light on Sativex’s effectiveness and side effect profile:

- **23%** of people in Italy stopped Sativex treatment because it wasn't effective and **16%** due to side effects
  - The most common side effects were cognitive and psychiatric effects, fatigue and drowsiness
- **80%** of people in the UK, Germany and Switzerland benefitted from taking Sativex and **30%** stopped due to lack of effectiveness or side effects
  - The most common side effects were dizziness and fatigue

**In Europe, scientists have also looked at using Sativex to treat other MS symptoms:**

- **Although their findings were not statistically significant**, investigators in the UK and Belgium concluded that Sativex treatment improved bladder dysfunction.
- **Italian researchers found Sativex treatment significantly reduced pain and abnormal cold perception in people with MS.**

**What research is being done in the United States?**

- **A clinical trial is underway to demonstrate the effectiveness of Sativex in the treatment of muscle spasms associated with MS.**
- **Future studies are planned to assess its effectiveness at reducing muscle spasm frequency and treating increased muscle tone.**

**iConquerMS engages people with MS to drive and shape research on topics like alternative medicine. If you haven’t already, please consider joining!**

We are delighted to **introduce** you to Mark Gilliland, ACP’s newest Program Manager! Mark has a background in data analytics, data visualization and automation solutions. Please take a moment to get to know him, we are excited to have him aboard!