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Summary of research

Dr. Pausova is a co-director on the Saguenay Youth Study, which is a CIHR- and HSFC-funded program investigating cardiometabolic and brain health (and genetic, epigenetic and lipidomic biomarkers) in 2,000 Canadian adolescents and their parents (<http://www.saguenay-youth-study.org>). In this research, her group focuses on early stages and trans-generational trajectories of common cardio-metabolic and brain diseases. This research is guided by the following biomedical considerations: (1) many common cardio-metabolic and brain disease originate in utero; (2) they involve interactions between adverse environments and vulnerability genes; (3) many of these diseases emerge during adolescence and become established during middle-aged adulthood; and (4) most of them are multi-systemic, affecting both the brain and body.

The main research interests are:

- Intra-abdominal obesity and its links to cardiometabolic health, brain structure and cognition
- Eating behavior, addiction and the adolescent brain
- Genetic and environmental factors modulating DNA methylation