

Growth, Cardiometabolic and Vascular Disease Risk Among *In Utero* Drug Exposed Adolescents

The Principal Investigator (Dr. Sarah Messiah) has recently obtained an NIH Career Development Award (K01 DA623939-01) to collect cardiometabolic samples (fasting glucose, lipids, blood pressure, and anthropometrics) to estimate the prevalence of the metabolic syndrome in a large, well established cohort of *in utero* drug exposed children and a control group matched on age and ethnicity who are now 16-to-18 years old.

Dr. Messiah is proposing to include pro-inflammatory mediators and atherosclerotic biomarkers to the K01 battery to allow for the additional estimation of atherosclerotic disease risk in this cohort.

The broad, long-term goal of the proposed research is to elucidate links, both causal and non-causal, from *in utero* cocaine exposure to later development during the period from childhood to adolescence, with a specific focus upon how *in utero* cocaine exposure might alter occurrence and trajectories of growth (onset of obesity in particular), and subsequent development of cardiometabolic and vascular disease risk factors.