

CLSA Approved Project

Applicant

Dr. Marie-Pierre Sylvestre, Université de Montréal

E-mail Address

marie-pierre.sylvestre@umontreal.ca

Project Title

Mechanisms involved in the association between body mass index and carotid intima media thickness

Project Summary

Obesity is increasingly common in high income countries. Obesity puts people at risk of developing hardening of their arteries, which can lead to heart attacks and stroke, referred to as atherosclerosis. Our research will look at how the inflammation in a person's body may play a role in the damaging association between obesity and atherosclerosis. We will use an advanced statistical technique that uses a person's genetics to measure the true (in other words unbiased) relationship between obesity (measured using the body mass index), inflammation (measured using the molecule found in the blood C-reactive protein), and atherosclerosis (measured using the thickness of the walls of the carotid arteries in the neck).

Keywords

Mediation, Mendelian randomization, Adosity, Cardiovascular disease risk factors