Dr. Rautava has completed a 2-year postdoctoral research fellowship at Harvard University & Massachusetts General Hospital and a 1-year clinical neonatology fellowship at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto. He was appointed adjunct professor in experimental pediatrics in 2013. He currently works as clinical instructor in pediatrics at the University of Turku and as neonatologist at the Turku University Hospital. His research is based on the hypothesis that early contact with microbes and the indigenous intestinal microbiota has a significant long-term impact on health.