

Graph model representation

- We can use graphs to represent our putative causal model.
- An arrow between variables represents a potential causal effect.



This is a Directed Acyclic Graph, a **DAG**

Elemental triads

- All DAGs can be decomposed into a set of 3 elemental motifs:
- The pipe, the fork and the collider
- We can use these to structure our thinking about our models and decide what variable to include or exclude

The pipe:



The fork:



The collider:

