

The Friedman Brain Institute

2025 FBI Research Scholars

On behalf of the Philanthropic Leadership Council of The Friedman Brain Institute, we are pleased to announce the 2025 recipients of The FBI Research Scholars Awards.

Joseph and Nancy DiSabato Research Scholar Award



Eun-Jeong Yang, PhD

Instructor, Neurology

Pre-clinical evaluation of safety and efficacy of Alzheimer's Disease immunotherapeutics delivered with focused ultrasound

Disease-modifying therapies, including anti-amyloid beta ($A\beta$) monoclonal antibodies (mAbs) such as aducanumab, lecanemab, and donanemab, represent a significant breakthrough in Alzheimer's disease (AD) therapeutics. However, their clinical application is constrained by limited brain penetration and adverse effects, including vascular complications. Focused ultrasound (FUS) has emerged as a promising approach to transiently open the blood-brain barrier (BBB), enhancing mAb delivery to the brain. This study aims to evaluate the safety and efficacy of FUS-mediated mAb delivery in AD mouse models, with a specific focus on mitigating vascular damage associated with high-dose mAb therapy. The findings seek to optimize therapeutic outcomes while minimizing associated risks.



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