

The Friedman Brain Institute

2023 FBI Research Scholars

On behalf of the Philanthropic Leadership Council of The Friedman Brain Institute, we are pleased to announce the 2023 recipients of The FBI Research Scholars Awards.

Fascitelli Research Scholar Award



Dalila Pinto, PhD

Assistant Professor,
Psychiatry, and Genetics
and Genomic Sciences



Melissa Umphlett, MD

Assistant Professor,
Pathology, Molecular and
Cell Based Medicine



Madeline Fields, MD

Associate Professor,
Neurology

Molecular Profiling of Pediatric-Onset Focal Epilepsies

Refractory child-onset focal epilepsies (FE) are a tremendous burden on affected children and their families, and are associated with early death. Our goal is to use a unique collection of specimens obtained from stereotactic electroencephalography and surgical resection of seizure-onset foci and develop tools to identify somatic molecular alterations. This research lays the groundwork to unlock an important new resource for profiling brain tissues and cell types, amenable for finding alterations in inoperable cases and FEs that are MRI-negative, complementing neuroimaging and neuropathology.



Icahn
School of
Medicine at
Mount
Sinai