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.

Harvey Schwartz Research Scholar Award

Muhammad A Parvaz, PhD
Assistant Professor, Psychiatry and Neuroscience

Cheryl M Corcoran, MD
Associate Professor, Psychiatry

Neurocomputational modeling to distinguish clinical phenotypes of comorbid psychosis and cannabis use.

Rising prevalence of high-potency cannabis use confers greater than a twofold risk for later development of a primary psychotic disorder. Such high comorbidity often leads to the development of a cannabis-induced psychotic disorder, which only in some cases progresses to become a primary psychotic disorder with comorbid cannabis use, complicating the diagnostic process. Currently, the onset of a primary psychotic disorder is assessed by tracking clinical presentations over time, which is costly, time-consuming, and unfeasible. Here, we propose to develop neurocomputational brain network models using dynamic causal modeling of the person-specific high-density EEG data to mechanistically predict clinical outcomes. These disease-specific and neurobiologically informed models will deepen our understanding of differential mechanisms and will help identify disease-specific targets to develop more effective and personalized treatment and intervention.