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.

Richard and Susan Friedman Research Scholar Award

Sairam Geethanath, PhD
Assistant Professor, Diagnostic, Molecular and Interventional Radiology

Shilpa R Taufique, PhD
Assistant Professor, Psychiatry

Accessible community-based neuroimaging of substance use disorder patients to monitor therapeutic efficacy

Substance use disorder (SUD) negatively impacts brain health. Underserved populations experience disproportionately poor SUD-related outcomes. Inequitable healthcare access is a key contributor to this situation. Recent studies have highlighted the need for densely sampled temporal neuroimaging data in addiction disorders to maximize clinical insight. Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) is the preferred tool for investigating the human brain. Currently, two-thirds of the world's population, mostly in low-resource settings, do not have access to MRI. This low accessibility results from the siting, infrastructure, engineering, electrical power, and on-site expertise requirements of high-field MRI systems. In contrast, portable low-field imaging (LFI) can provide a dense temporal sampling of neuroimaging data. Our project will demonstrate LFI as a novel quantitative tool to monitor therapeutic efficacy in SUD patients.

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