1. Adolescent Cannabis Use & Psychiatric Risk

- Duncan Clark, MD, PhD University of PittsburghLeads studies on adolescent brain development and cannabis, including as site PI for the ABCD study and the NCANDA consortium, exploring substance use and long-term cognitive outcomes in youth (<u>psychiatry.pitt.edu</u>)
- Yasmin L. Hurd, PhD Mount SinaiInvestigated how modern high-potency cannabis affects adolescent brain development, mental health, and risk of cannabis use disorder (CUD) WikipediaMedscape

2. CBD & Autism (Child/Adolescent Focus)

- Orrin Devinsky, MD NYU LangoneRenowned neurologist whose Epidiolex (CBD) gained FDA approval for epilepsy; leading trials exploring CBD's effects on autism-related anxiety and social symptoms in pediatric populations NYU Langone Health.
- Francisco X. Castellanos, MD NYU LangoneCollaborating on trials investigating
 whether Epidiolex can improve core autism symptoms like social interaction and anxiety
 in children NYU Langone Health.
- Doris Trauner, MD UC San DiegoPrincipal investigator of a Phase III trial testing CBD effects on severe behavioral issues in children with ASD (ages 7–14), including MRI and EEG monitoring UC San Diego Health.
- Eric Hollander, MD, PhD Albert Einstein College of MedicineFocused on non-intoxicating phytocannabinoid research—particularly CBDV—for reducing irritability and repetitive behaviors in autistic children and teens. Actively testing placebo-controlled approaches to Reddit.

3. Cannabis, CBD & Psychiatric Care

- **F. Markus Leweke, MD/PhD** University of Sydney & Central Institute of Mental Health (Germany)A pioneer in the "cannabinoid hypothesis of schizophrenia," researching endocannabinoid systems in psychiatric disorders and developing CBD-based psychopharmacological strategies Wikipedia.
- Staci A. Gruber, PhD Harvard Medical School / McLean HospitalDirector of the MIND Program, exploring how cannabis and cannabinoids impact cognitive and psychiatric outcomes via neuroimaging, with an emphasis on psychiatric care and age-related effects Wikipedia.