



Baruch. S. Blumberg Prize

Background:

Originally called the Hepatitis B Foundation (HBF) Distinguished Scientist Award, the name of the Award was change to the “Baruch S. Blumberg Prize” or “Blumberg Prize” in 2014 to in memory of Dr. Blumberg. All past recipients of the Distinguished Scientist Award were notified of the change and re-issued the current Blumberg Prize medallion.

Award Criteria

The Blumberg Prize is given annually by The Hepatitis B Foundation (HBF) to a person or persons determined by the eligible selectors to have made the most “important scientific or medical contributions to finding a cure for hepatitis B and the diseases it causes”. The award criteria has been revised recently to include indirect contributions that have been the most important in “helping achieve the goal of the Hepatitis B Foundation in finding a cure for hepatitis B and the diseases it causes”. This opened up eligibility to include the area of public health and delivery of care. The award is intended to recognize these individuals, to show the appreciation for their work from the affected community, and to raise awareness of the problems associated with hepatitis B.

The Award is from The Hepatitis B Foundation. It is a cash amount, a framed certificate and an attractive medallion.

The award is usually given at the HBF’s annual Gala in a public recognition.

Separately, the Awardee (s) are invited to give a professional scientific presentation to the faculty and staff of the Hepatitis B Foundation and Baruch S. Blumberg Institute.

Selection Process:

- Candidates for the Blumberg Prize may be nominated by The President of The Hepatitis B Foundation, the senior faculty of The Baruch S. Blumberg Institute and any past Baruch S. Blumberg Prize / Distinguished Scientist Award recipients.
- Voting: Each (living) past Baruch S. Blumberg Prize recipient is asked to “vote” for their choice for the newest Awardee from a slate of candidates. Voters are asked to indicate their 1st, 2nd and 3rd choices which are then given values of 3, 2 or 1. The candidate with the highest value is the winner. If there is a tie, the 3rd choice values are eliminated from the scoring. If there is still a tie, The President of The Hepatitis B Foundation makes the choice from the candidates who tied.
- Candidates who do not receive votes from at least 3 voters are removed from the slate.
- The slate of candidates should not be greater than 10. If the slate exceeds ten, candidates receiving the fewest votes are removed.
- The voting should be complete by Nov. 1, of the year prior to the Award year.