

## **AARON SHATKIN, PHD, TO BE RECOGNIZED AS OUTSTANDING MEDICAL RESEARCH SCIENTIST**

Lawrenceville, NJ – January 6, 2009 – Paul J. Hirsch, MD, Chairman of the Edward J. Ill Excellence in Medicine Foundation, today announced that Aaron J. Shatkin, PhD, will receive the Outstanding Medical Research Scientist Award for Basic Biomedical Research. The award will be presented at the Edward J. Ill Excellence in Medicine Awards® ceremony on May 6, 2009 at the Hyatt Regency Princeton.

The Outstanding Medical Research Scientist Award in the Basic Biomedical Research category is presented to an individual who has carried out biomedical research leading to important advances in biotechnology or in the understanding of disease processes. Aaron Shatkin earned his PhD from Rockefeller University, where he trained with Nobelist E.L. Tatum. He did research on the structure and function of animal cells and viruses at the National Institutes of Health, the Salk Institute and the Roche Institute of Molecular Biology before being named director of the Center for Advanced Biotechnology and Medicine, a new research and teaching institute jointly administered by Rutgers University, where he is University Professor of Molecular Biology, and UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School where he is Professor of Molecular Genetics & Microbiology. Dr. Shatkin has published more than 200 scientific papers, and his work has provided new insights into diseases including cancer, AIDS and other viral infections.

“We are honored to acknowledge Dr. Shatkin as the first recipient of the Outstanding Medical Research Scientist Award for Basic Biomedical Research,” said Dr. Hirsch. “His significant contributions to his field and society in general certainly fulfill the criteria for advancement and excellence that characterize this new award.”

The other 2009 awardees include:

- Edward J. Ill Physician’s Award®: Kenneth G. Swan, MD
- Peter W. Rodino, Jr., Citizen’s Award®: Fred M. Jacobs, MD, JD
- Outstanding Medical Educator Award: Nagaswami S. Vasani, DVM, PhD
- Outstanding Medical Research Scientist Award for Clinical Research: Joseph R. Bertino, MD
- Outstanding Medical Executive Award: Gary S. Carter, FACHE
- Verice M. Mason Community Service Leader Award: John W. Beckley, MPH, on behalf of Hunterdon County Partnership for Health
- Special Award: Jill A. Lipoti, PhD, for protecting the people of New Jersey from unnecessary exposure to radiation from natural and man-made sources

The awards will be presented at the Edward J. Ill Excellence in Medicine Awards® ceremony on May 6, 2009 at the Hyatt Regency Princeton. To purchase tickets or advertisements for the event or to learn more about the awards, contact the Edward J. Ill Excellence in Medicine Foundation at 609-803-2350 or visit [www.EJlawards.org](http://www.EJlawards.org). Profits from this year’s event will benefit the Community Food Bank of New Jersey and the Joetta Clark Diggs Sports Foundation’s Head 2 Toe Fitness Program. The awards program is sponsored by MDAdvantage Insurance Company of New Jersey, a leading provider of medical professional liability insurance in New Jersey.