The Richard L. Schilsky Cancer and Leukemia Group B Achievement Award was established in 2010 to recognize the 15-year tenure of Dr. Schilsky as Group Chair of CALGB. The award acknowledges the significant contributions of an individual to cooperative group research. As an organization, it is vital for the Alliance for Clinical Trials in Oncology to identify and honor the talented people responsible for its success. This award is made possible through generous donations from our members and industry supporters. It is presented each year during the Plenary Session of the Alliance Group Meeting.

2016 Award Recipient
Deborah Schrag, MD, MPH

Deborah Schrag, MD, MPH, is Chief of the Division of Population Sciences in the Department of Medical Oncology at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School. She is also a member of the Alliance Gastrointestinal (GI) Committee and Alliance/American College of Surgeons Cancer Care Delivery Research Committee (CCDR).

Dr. Schrag is a health services researcher focusing on the study of cancer care delivery, specifically evaluating the quality and effectiveness of cancer care delivery with an emphasis on solid tumors. She has methodological expertise analyzing large health data including electronic medical record, tumor registry, and Medicare and Medicaid data as well as data from the Cancer Research Network and other large cohorts in order to evaluate treatment effectiveness. She uses results of effectiveness studies to inform benefit design, clinical trial design, and quality improvement initiatives.

Dr. Schrag mentors and trains faculty/postdoctoral fellows and students with backgrounds in clinical medicine, epidemiology and biostatistics in cancer-related health services research. She also works closely with a variety of organizations, including the Alliance, American Society of Clinical Oncology, National Comprehensive Cancer Network, and the American Board of Internal Medicine to develop strategies to evaluate and improve the quality of cancer care.

Dr. Schrag received her medical degree from Columbia University in New York. She subsequently completed her residency in Internal Medicine at Brigham and Women’s Hospital, and her fellowship in Medical Oncology at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. She obtained a Masters in Public Health from the Harvard School of Public Health, and then joined the staff of DFCI and Brigham and Women’s Hospital. From 1999 through 2007, Dr. Schrag practiced medical oncology in the Division of Gastrointestinal Oncology at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, where she was an Associate Member and Associate Professor of Public Health and Medicine. In 2007, she returned to DFCI and Brigham and Women’s Hospital, where she is a medical oncologist and clinical investigator in the Center for Gastrointestinal Oncology.