

# **INTRODUCTION**

The term "Dermatoethics" was coined as dermatopathology, dermatopharmacology and dermatologic surgery ( *Hornblum , 1998*).

Biomedical ethics is the way of analyzing moral decisions making (*Arnold, 2002*).

Medicine is not a trade to be learned but a profession. A profession is characterized by a specialized body of knowledge that its members must adhere to a code of ethics and a duty of service that put patient care above self interest and by the privilege of self-regulation granted by society (*Lois and Cathy, 2005*).

Dermatologists must individually and collectively fulfill the duties of profession. While outside influences on medicine and patient – physician relationship are many, the ethical foundation of the profession must remain in sharp focus (*Snyder and Tooker 1998*).

Medical and professional ethics often establish positive duties (that is, what one should do) to greater extent than the law. Current understanding of medical ethics is based on the principles that include beneficence, non-harmful and respect for patient autonomy (*Beauchamp and Childress, 2001*).