



**Faculty of Applied Science**  
**Medical Analyses Department**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Year**

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**Medical and Professional Ethics**

**Topic . No.1**

# **Introduction to Medical Ethics**

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# Objective

To understand the principles and concepts of Medical Ethics.

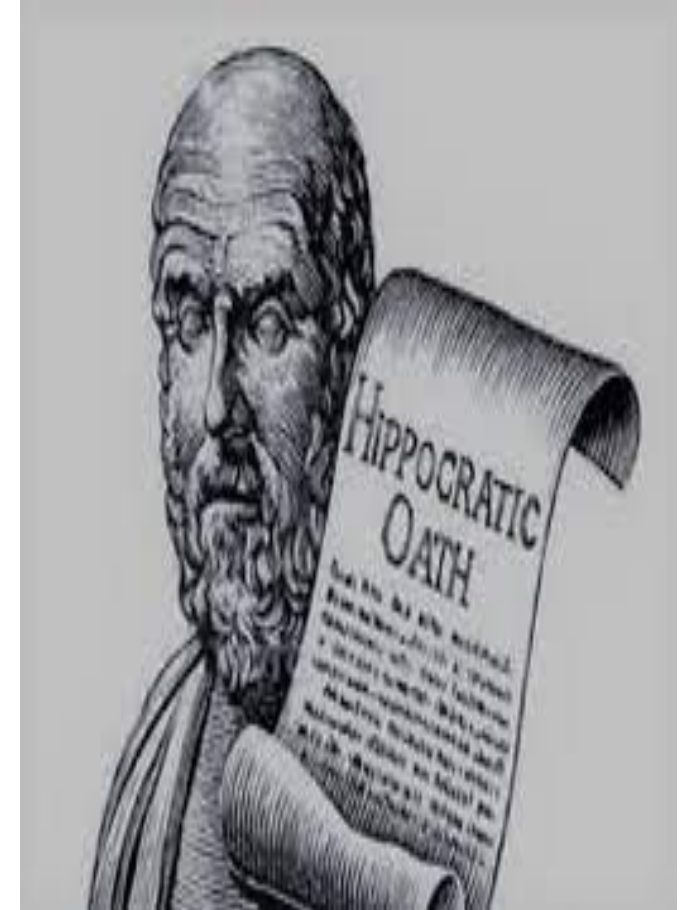
To comprehend the basics of Professionalism and Professional conduct at Medical Laboratories

# Historically

The term **medical ethics** first dates back to **1803**, when English author and physician **Thomas Percival** published a document describing the **requirements and expectations** of medical professionals within medical facilities.

# Historically

The Code of Medical Ethics (Code) of the American Medical Association (AMA) is **rooted in an understanding of the goals of medicine as a profession**, which dates back to the 5th century BC and the Greek physician **Hippocrates**, to relieve suffering and promote well-being in a relationship of fidelity with the patient.

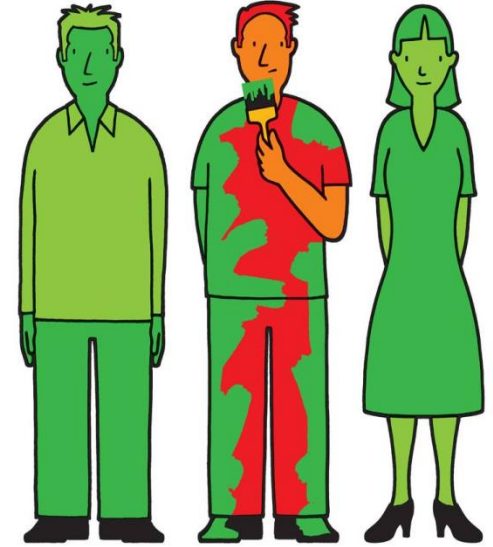


**Morality** refers to the set of standards that enable people to live cooperatively in groups. It's what societies determine to be “right” and “acceptable.”



# Conformity

Is doing what everybody else doing , regardless of what is right



# Morality

Is doing what is right , regardless of what everybody else is doing.



## Definition

- **Ethics** is a set of principles of right conduct, such as those governing the actions of an individual or of a professional group, or the philosophy underlying such principles.
- **Medical ethics** deals with those ethical principles that govern professional conduct in medicine. Medical ethics implies obligations of the health professional toward the patient as well as some obligations towards other health professionals .

## Definition

- The Greek word *ethike* means habit, action, character.
- The Latin word *mos (morals)* means habit or custom.
- In simple words, Ethics is a set of philosophical beliefs and practices concerned with the distinction between right and wrong.



## Definition

**Healthcare personnel (HCP)** refers to all paid and unpaid persons serving in healthcare settings who have the potential for direct or indirect exposure to patients or infectious materials, including body substances (e.g., blood, tissue, and specific body fluids)



## Definition

**A health professional** is a person trained to work in a health or health-related field. In most cases, a health professional will have received training to work in a specific mental or physical health field.



# Ethics Are Not ...

- Ethics is not the same as feelings
- Ethics is not religion
- Ethics is not following the law
- Ethics is not following culturally accepted norms
- Ethics is not science



# Ethics Are ...

- Moral Principles
- What is good and bad
- What is right and wrong
- Based on value system
- Ethical norms are not universal – depends on the sub culture of the society



A Medical staff must recognize **responsibility to patients first** and foremost, as well as to society, to other health professionals, and to self.

These are not laws, but standards of conduct which define the essentials of honorable behavior for the medical professionals.



