The term „physician“ is found for the first time in the terracotta plates of the Linear B writing found in Pylos, dated to 1250 BC. That is an unquestionable sign of the existence of several citizens in this prehistoric period, who acted as physicians with special mission to diagnose and heal ill people. It is obvious that, even in the early society, an ethical code was also present in the practice of this profession, because the Mycenaean society as this of Pylos was thoroughly organized, as we can infer from the rest archaeological findings. Nevertheless, the earliest known medical code in ancient Greece was the so-called „Hippocratic Oath“. Although this text was written probably by a student of Hippocrates during the 4th c. BC, it reflects the basic ethical principles of the medical profession in ancient Greek antiquity. According to it, the physician should not kill anyone, should not perform an abortion, should not help someone to die, should not tell to others what he saw or hear from a patient, should not perform a lithotomy and not be involved in a relationship with a patient. These basic principles still are the standard ethical code of the physicians all over the world. But in order to reach this ethical code, ethical standards of the physicians were gradually formulated in the passing of the time. After the Mycenaean epoch, the Aristocratic Epoch of the Archaic Period of the 8th to the 5th c BC born the begging of the rational
Ethics in ancient Greek medicine – DEMOU et al

Compliance with Ethics Requirements:

"The authors declare no conflict of interest regarding this article"

REFERENCES