Ethics education in dentistry is a requirement for accreditation. Despite universal adoption of ethics courses, there is ongoing discussion about the appropriate content of these courses and about methods to engage students. Ethical issues were categorized and coded by consensus between two faculty authors. Students may resist instruction in ethics, questioning whether ethics or moral behavior can or should be taught at this stage of professional or personal development. In addition, ethics educators struggle with the perception on the part of students and administrators that ethics is dry and boring. The medical education literature suggests that students are more engaged in ethics education. The ADA Principles of Ethics and Code of Professional Conduct (the ADA Code) can
offer guidance to help new dentists answer ethical questions, Dr. Ishkanian said. “My reputation, my name and my license are too valuable to risk,” Dr. Ishkanian said in describing several real world practice situations she encountered. Dentists are faced with challenging ethical dilemmas in day-to-day practice. Yes, dentistry is a business, but you and your patients determine the best treatment, not the office manager. Continuing your education. Upon graduation from dental school, you quickly learn that you are a beginner. American Society for Dental Ethics. Associate Editors James T. Rule, DDS, MS David T. Ozar, PhD. Editorial Board Muriel J. Bebeau, PhD Phylis L. Beemsterboer, RDH, EdD Larry Jenson, DDS Anne Koerber, DDS, PhD Donald E. Patthoff, Jr., DDS Bruce N. Peltier, PhD, MBA Jos V. M. Welie, MMedS, JD, PhD Gary H. Westerman, DDS, MS Gerald R. Winslow, PhD Pamela Zarkowski, RDH, JD. Correspondence relating to the Issues in Dental Ethics section of the Journal of the American College of Dentists should be addressed to: James Rule 8842 High Banks Drive Easton, MD 21601 jrule0870@verizon.net. Issues in Dent...