**Agency Profile**

***Occupational Safety Office—Laboratory Safety Division***

***Mission:***

**The Laboratory Safety Division of the OSO promulgates rules and publishes guidance to make laboratories increasingly safe for personnel. Standards that cover the major hazards that workers are most likely to encounter in their daily tasks, include:**

* **Exposure to Hazardous Chemicals**
* **Blood Borne Pathogens**
* **Hazard Communication**
* **Personal Protective Equipment**
* **Eye, Face and Hand Protection**

**Employee Profile**

***Employee:*** **Mahendra Patel**

***Position:* Director, Lab Safety Division**

**GS-15**

***Duties:***

* **Oversees work of Laboratory Safety Inspectors and Technicians**
* **Based on data collected recommends regulatory and policy changes**
* **Reviews and contributes to proposed rulemakings on laboratory safety and training requirements**
* **Serves on the OSO’s Laboratory Safety Advisory Committee**

**The Laboratory Safety Advisory Committee (LSAC) provides scientific and technical advice and guidance to the OSO. The Committee includes diverse membership across laboratory specialties, professional roles, (laboratory management, technical, physicians, nurses) and practice settings (academic, clinical, public health), and includes a consumer representative.**

**The advice and guidance pertains to general issues related to improvement in laboratory quality and laboratory medicine practice. In addition, the Committee provides advice and guidance on specific questions related to possible revision of safety standards.**