



## **Dr. Ashok Patel**

Dr. Ashok Patel is the chair of the Environmental Medicine committee of the Zumbro Valley medical society and is an active physician practicing in the Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care medicine at the Mayo Clinic. The ZVMS serves over 2500 physicians in a four-county area in SE Minnesota. He was born in Kampala, Uganda and trained at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Alberta (medical school, 1982-1986) as well as Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota (internal medicine residency: 1987-1990 and pulmonary-critical care fellowship: 1990-1993). For over 25 years, his clinical practice at Mayo Clinic has focused around the integrated team-based care of patients with asthma, COPD, and other airway disorders. The ZVMS-EMC team is a broader cross-section of students and experts striving to improve our individual preparedness to respond to all types of hazards and emergencies, including environmental concerns and barriers to sustainable development. His predecessor on ZVMS, Dr. Fred Nobrega and others were influential in passing the legislation on improving air quality in public places. Dr. Patel is also involved in international education exchanges through Rotary International, Sigma Xi, and the American Thoracic Society that are very engaged in creating healthier people and healthier communities and a more sustainable future for all.