**Questions Asked During Live Webinar Broadcast on 08/24/2016**

**Addiction & HIV and Other Bloodborne Pathogens**

Presenter: Mita Johnson, EdD, LPC, LMFT, LAC, MAC, SAP

**Are any other SSRI’s considered unsafe for HIV patients in treatment?**

**Are you aware of Epclusa? For all genotypes**
A: Sofosbuvir is one of the newer medications that has very good results with all genotypes and was mentioned as Sofosbuvir and not its marketing name during the presentation.

**Can a person test positive for Hep C and not actually have it just an immunity to it?**
A: Hep C is an antibody test but a person who is found to be positive for Hep C will have additional tests to confirm the Hep C diagnosis – this is not based on only one test. To have immunity means to have made antibodies which means that the person could be one of the 15% who was infected and cleared the infection on their own,

**What if someone has autoimmune Hep C is it treated with the same medication?**
A: An autoimmune disorder is a situation where the body attacks itself. Hepatitis C is not an autoimmune disorder – it is not the body attacking the liver. Hep C is caused by the Hep C virus.

**Why would a patient’s birth year indicate a need to be tested?**
A: Baby boomers are part of a generation where there was a lot of “sex, drugs and rock & roll” so protection was not big at that time nor was Hep C even really around at that time. Blood testing of all blood donations to blood banks was sophisticated enough to screen out HIV and Hep C in 1992.

**Will the zika virus be discussed? Will it be considered a sexually transmitted disease?**
A: Zika virus is spread by mosquitos and is not considered a sexually transmitted disease.