

# In the United States Court of Federal Claims

## OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 16-1151V

Filed: August 31, 2017

STEPHANIE ROBERTS,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

Special Master Sanders

Ruling on Entitlement; Concession;  
Causation-In-Fact; Influenza (“Flu”)  
Vaccine; Tetanus-diphtheria-acellular  
pertussis (“Tdap”) Vaccine; Guillain-  
Barre Syndrome (“GBS”).

Martin Rubenstein, Staten Island, New York, for Petitioner.

Robert Paul Coleman, III, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for Respondent.

### **RULING ON ENTITLEMENT**<sup>1</sup>

On September 16, 2016, Petitioner filed a petition for compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program.<sup>2</sup> 42 U.S.C. §§ 300aa-10 to -34 (2012). Petitioner alleges that she suffered from Guillain-Barré Syndrome (“GBS”) as a result of receiving influenza and tetanus-diphtheria-acellular pertussis (“Tdap”) vaccinations on October 14, 2013. Petition at 1. The case was assigned to the undersigned on January 13, 2017.

On August 30, 2017, Respondent filed his Rule 4(c) report in which he concedes that Petitioner is entitled to compensation in this case. Respondent’s Rule 4(c) Report at 1.

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<sup>1</sup> This decision shall be posted on the United States Court of Federal Claims’ website, in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002, 44 U.S.C. § 3501 note (2012) (Federal Management and Promotion of Electronic Government Services). In accordance with Vaccine Rule 18(b), a party has 14 days to identify and move to delete medical or other information that satisfies the criteria in § 300aa-12(d)(4)(B). Further, consistent with the rule requirement, a motion for redaction must include a proposed redacted decision. If, upon review, the undersigned agrees that the identified material fits within the requirements of that provision, such material will be deleted from public access.

<sup>2</sup> The Program comprises Part 2 of the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, 42 U.S.C. §§ 300aa-10 et seq. (hereinafter “Vaccine Act,” “the Act,” or “the Program”). Hereafter, individual section references will be to 42 U.S.C. § 300aa of the Act.

Specifically, Respondent finds that the evidence shows Petitioner suffered GBS following the administration of an influenza vaccine, and that the onset occurred within the time period specified in the newly revised Vaccine Injury Table (“Table”).<sup>3</sup> *Id.* at 4. Respondent recognizes that Petitioner “may-re-file this petition and be afforded a presumption of causation under the revised Table.” *Id.* As such, Respondent does not contest entitlement to compensation in this case.

**In view of Respondent’s position and the evidence of record, the undersigned finds that Petitioner is entitled to compensation.**

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

**s/Herbrina D. Sanders**

Herbrina D. Sanders

Special Master

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<sup>3</sup> The revised Table only governs petitions filed on or after March 21, 2017. 82 Fed. Reg. 6294 (Jan. 19, 2017) (to be codified at 42 C.F.R. Pt. 100).