

# In the United States Court of Federal Claims

## OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

Filed: January 24, 2020

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|---------------------|---|--|
| MARIE ALTEMA,       | * | No. 17-1286V                             |
|                     | * |  |
| Petitioner,         | * | Special Master Sanders                   |
| v.                  | * |  |
|                     | * |  |
| SECRETARY OF HEALTH | * | Stipulation for Award; Influenza (“flu”) |
| AND HUMAN SERVICES, | * | Vaccine; Transverse Myelitis (“TM”)      |
|                     | * |  |
| Respondent.         | * |  |

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Isaiah Richard Kalinowski, Maglio, Christopher & Toale, Washington, DC, for Petitioner.  
Debra A. Filteau Begley, United States Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for Respondent.

### DECISION<sup>1</sup>

On September 18, 2017, Marie Altema (“Petitioner”) filed a petition for compensation pursuant to the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program.<sup>2</sup> 42 U.S.C. §§ 300aa-10 to -34 (2012); Pet. at 1, ECF No. 1. Petitioner alleged that the influenza (“flu”) vaccine she received on October 29, 2015, caused her to develop Transverse Myelitis (“TM”). *See* Stip. at 1, ECF No. 50; Pet. at 2–3. Petitioner further alleged that she experienced the residual effects of her injury for more than six months. Stip. at 1.

On January 23, 2020, the parties filed a stipulation in which they state that a decision should be entered awarding compensation to Petitioner. *Id.* at 2. Respondent denies that the flu vaccine caused Petitioner’s alleged TM, or any other injury. *Id.* at 1. Nevertheless, the parties agree to the joint stipulation, attached hereto as Appendix A. I find the stipulation reasonable and adopt it as the decision of the Court in awarding damages, on the terms set forth therein.

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<sup>1</sup> This decision shall be posted on the website of the United States Court of Federal Claims, in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002, Pub. L. No. 107-347, § 205, 116 Stat. 2899, 2913 (codified as amended at 44 U.S.C. § 3501 note (2012)). **This means the Decision will be available to anyone with access to the Internet.** As provided by Vaccine Rule 18(b), each party has 14 days within which to request redaction “of any information furnished by that party: (1) that is a trade secret or commercial or financial in substance and is privileged or confidential; or (2) that includes medical files or similar files, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of privacy.” Vaccine Rule 18(b).

<sup>2</sup> National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, Pub L. No. 99-660, 100 Stat. 3755.

The parties stipulate that Petitioner shall receive the following compensation:

**A lump sum of \$200,000.00 in the form of a check payable to [P]etitioner. This amount represents compensation for all damages that would be available under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a).**

*Id.* at 2.

I approve the requested amount for Petitioner's compensation. Accordingly, an award should be made consistent with the stipulation.

In the absence of a motion for review filed pursuant to RCFC Appendix B, the Clerk of Court **SHALL ENTER JUDGMENT** in accordance with the terms of the parties' stipulation.<sup>3</sup>

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

s/Herbrina D. Sanders  
Herbrina D. Sanders  
Special Master

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<sup>3</sup> Pursuant to Vaccine Rule 11(a), entry of judgment is expedited by the parties' joint filing of notice renouncing the right to seek review.