

In the United States Court of Federal Claims

OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 20-253V

UNPUBLISHED

LEONARD MILTON CALKINS,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

Chief Special Master Corcoran

Filed: November 3, 2021

Special Processing Unit (SPU);
Ruling on Entitlement; Concession;
Table Injury; Influenza (Flu) Vaccine;
Shoulder Injury Related to Vaccine
Administration (SIRVA)

Kelly Danielle Burdette, Burdette Law, PLLC, North Bend, WA, for Petitioner.

Traci R. Patton, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for Respondent.

RULING ON ENTITLEMENT¹

On March 5, 2020, Leonard Calkins filed a petition for compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. §300aa-10, *et seq.*² (the “Vaccine Act”). Petitioner alleges that he suffered a Table injury – Shoulder Injury Related to Vaccine Administration (“SIRVA”) – as a result of his September 21, 2018 influenza (“flu”) vaccination. Amended Petition, filed October 26, 2020, at 1. Petitioner further alleges that the vaccine was administered within the United States, that he suffered the residual effects of his injury for more than six months, and that there has been no prior award or settlement of a civil action on his behalf as a result of his injury. See Amended Petition ¶¶ 3, 10-11. The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit of the Office of Special Masters.

¹ Because this unpublished Ruling contains a reasoned explanation for the action in this case, I am required to post it on the United States Court of Federal Claims' website in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). **This means the Ruling will be available to anyone with access to the internet.** In accordance with Vaccine Rule 18(b), Petitioner has 14 days to identify and move to redact medical or other information, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy. If, upon review, I agree that the identified material fits within this definition, I will redact such material from public access.

² National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-660, 100 Stat. 3755. Hereinafter, for ease of citation, all section references to the Vaccine Act will be to the pertinent subparagraph of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa (2012).

On October 29, 2021, 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 2. Specifically, Respondent indicates that

DICP [Division of Injury Compensation Programs, Department of Health and Human Services] has reviewed the petition and medical records filed in this case and has concluded that compensation is appropriate because petitioner meets the criteria for a presumed SIRVA, as defined by the Vaccine Injury Table. Specifically, petitioner had no recent history of pain, inflammation or dysfunction in his left shoulder prior to vaccination; his pain and reduced range of motion were limited to the shoulder in which the vaccine was administered; and no other condition or abnormality was identified to explain his symptoms.

Id. at 5-6 (citing 42 C.F.R. § 100.3(a), (c)(10); § 300aa-13(a)(1)(B)). Respondent further agrees that "the statutory six-month sequela requirement has been satisfied. See 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-11(c)(D)(I). Therefore, based on the current record, [P]etitioner has satisfied all legal prerequisites for compensation under the Act." *Id.* at 6.

In view of Respondent's position and the evidence of record, I find that Petitioner is entitled to compensation.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

s/Brian H. Corcoran
Brian H. Corcoran
Chief Special Master