

In the United States Court of Federal Claims

OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 21-2304V

SUZETTE HARRIGAL,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

Chief Special Master Corcoran

Filed: July 11, 2023

Brittany Rose Wolf-Freedman, Gainsburgh, Benjamin, David, Meunier & Warshauer, LLC, New Orleans, LA, for Petitioner.

Adam N. Muffett, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for Respondent.

RULING ON ENTITLEMENT¹

On December 17, 2021, Suzette Harrigal (Petitioner”) 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 she suffered a shoulder injury related to vaccine administration (“SIRVA”) as a result of an influenza (“flu”) vaccine administered on October 1, 2019. Petition at 1. Petitioner further alleges she received the vaccine in the United States, that she suffered the residual effects of her injury for more than six months, and that she has not received compensation in the form of an award for her injury. Petition at 4. The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit of the Office of Special Masters.

¹ Because this Ruling contains a reasoned explanation for the action taken in this case, it must be made publicly accessible and will be posted on the United States Court of Federal Claims' website, and/or at <https://www.govinfo.gov/app/collection/uscourts/national/cofc>, in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002. 44 U.S.C. § 3501 note (2018) (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 (2018).

On July 10, 2023, 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 Conceding Entitlement to Compensation and Proffer of Damages ("Proffer") at 1. Specifically, Respondent has concluded that Petitioner's injury is consistent with a SIRVA. *Id.* at 5. Respondent further agrees that Petitioner has suffered all legal prerequisites for compensation under the Act. *Id.*

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