

In the United States Court of Federal Claims

OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 22-0519V

UNPUBLISHED

MARILYN HARTOGH,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

Chief Special Master Corcoran

Filed: January 10, 2023

Special Processing Unit (SPU);
Ruling on Entitlement; Concession;
Table Injury; Influenza (Flu) Vaccine;
Guillain-Barre Syndrome (GBS)

*Leah VaSahnja Durant, Law Offices of Leah V. Durant, PLLC, Washington, DC, for
Petitioner.*

Christine Mary Becer, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for Respondent.

RULING ON ENTITLEMENT¹

On May 11, 2022, Marilyn Hartogh 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 Guillain-Barré Syndrome (“GBS”) which meets the Table definition for GBS, after receiving an influenza (“flu”) vaccine on September 16, 2019. Petition at 1 ¶ 1. Petitioner also alleges that she suffered the residual effects of her GBS for more than six months and that neither she nor any other party has filed a civil action or received compensation for her GBS. *Id.* at ¶¶ 11-13. 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¹ Because this unpublished Ruling contains a reasoned explanation for the action in this case, I am required to post it on the United States Court of Federal Claims' website in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 January 6, 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 at 1. Specifically, Respondent believes "that [P]etitioner suffered GBS following a flu vaccine within the Table time period, and there is not a preponderance of the medical evidence that [P]etitioner's GBS was due to a factor unrelated to the vaccination." *Id.* at 6. Respondent adds that "based on the record as it now stands, compensation is appropriate, as [P]etitioner has satisfied 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