

In the United States Court of Federal Claims

OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 23-1682V

BRUCE W. BLAIS, JR.,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

Chief Special Master Corcoran

Filed: May 5, 2025

Christopher Williams, Siri & Glimstad, LLP, New York, NY, for Petitioner.

Lauren Kells, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for Respondent.

RULING ON ENTITLEMENT¹

On September 29, 2023, Bruce W. Blais, Jr. 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 alleged that he suffered the Vaccine Injury Table injury of Guillain-Barré syndrome (“GBS”) that developed following an influenza (“flu”) vaccine administered on January 4, 2022. Petition at 1. The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit of the Office of Special Masters.

On May 5, 2025, Respondent filed a combined Rule 4(c) Report and Proffer, in which he **concedes** that Petitioner is entitled to compensation in this case. Rule 4(c) Report and Proffer at 1. Specifically, Respondent agrees that Petitioner has satisfied the criteria set forth in the effective Vaccine Injury Table (“Table”) and the Qualifications and

¹ Because this unpublished Ruling contains a reasoned explanation for the action taken in this case, it must be made publicly accessible and will be posted on the United States Court of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).

Aids to Interpretation (“QAI”), which afford Petitioner a presumption of causation if the onset of GBS occurs between three and forty-two days after a seasonal flu vaccination and there is no apparent alternative cause. *Id.* at 8 (citing 42 C.F.R. §§ 100.3(a)(XIV)(D), (c)(15)).

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