

In the United States Court of Federal Claims

OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 25-0019V

PATRICK WELLS,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

Chief Special Master Corcoran

Filed: January 20, 2026

Timothy James Lessman, Knutson & Casey Law Firm, Mankato, MN, for Petitioner.

Dorian Hurley, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for Respondent.

RULING ON ENTITLEMENT¹

On January 8, 2025, Patrick Wells 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 from Guillain-Barre syndrome (“GBS”) as a result of an influenza (“flu”) vaccine he received on October 24, 2022. Petition at 1. Petitioner further alleges that he suffered the residual effects of his injury for more than six months. Petition at 4. The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit of the Office of Special Masters.

On January 16, 2026, 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 states that “[i]t is respondent’s position that petitioner has

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).

satisfied the criteria set forth in the Table and the Qualifications and 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 10. Respondent further recommends that a decision on entitlement in favor of Petitioner and a damages order be issued. *Id.* at 11.

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