

# In the United States Court of Federal Claims

## OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 14-867V

Filed: January 22, 2015

Not for Publication

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CARMEL MCDOWELL

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH  
AND HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

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

William E. Cochran, Jr., Black McLaren Jones Ryland & Griffie, Memphis, TN, for  
petitioner.  
Adriana Ruth Teitel, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for respondent.

### **RULING ON ENTITLEMENT**<sup>1</sup>

**Vowell**, Chief Special Master:

On September 18, 2014, Carmel McDowell filed a petition for compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. §300aa-10, *et seq.*<sup>2</sup> [the "Vaccine Act" or "Program"]. The petition alleges that as a result of a seasonal influenza ("flu") vaccination on October 1, 2013, petitioner suffered a shoulder injury related to vaccine administration ("SIRVA"). Petition at 1. The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit of the Office of Special Masters.

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<sup>1</sup> Because this unpublished ruling contains a reasoned explanation for the action in this case, it will be posted on the United States Court of Federal Claims' website, in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002, Pub. L. No. 107-347, § 205, 116 Stat. 2899, 2913 (codified as amended at 44 U.S.C. § 3501 note (2006)). 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.

<sup>2</sup> National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-660, 100 Stat. 3755. Hereinafter, for ease of citation, all "§" references to the Vaccine Act will be to the pertinent subparagraph of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa (2006).

On January 21, 2015, respondent filed her Rule 4(c) Report ["Respondent's Report"], in which she concedes that petitioner is entitled to compensation in this case. Respondent's Report at 4. Specifically, respondent submits that "petitioner's alleged injury is consistent with a shoulder injury related to vaccine administration ("SIRVA")." *Id.* Additionally, respondent indicated that "petitioner has satisfied all legal prerequisites for compensation under the Act." *Id.*

**In view of respondent's concession and the evidence before me, I find that petitioner is entitled to compensation.**

**s/Denise K. Vowell**

Denise K. Vowell  
Chief Special Master