

# In the United States Court of Federal Claims

## OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 17-0332V

Filed: April 25, 2018

UNPUBLISHED

CARMEN GONZALEZ,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

Special Processing Unit (SPU);  
Ruling on Entitlement; Concession;  
Causation-In-Fact; Hepatitis B (Hep  
B) Vaccine; Shoulder Injury Related  
to Vaccine Administration (SIRVA)

*John Robert Howie, Howie Law, PC, Dallas, TX, for petitioner.*

*Robert Paul Coleman, III, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for respondent.*

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

**Dorsey**, Chief Special Master:

On March 10, 2017, petitioner 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”). Petitioner alleges that she suffered a shoulder injury related to vaccine administration (“SIRVA”) due to a Hepatitis B vaccination received on May 20, 2015. Petition at 1. The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit of the Office of Special Masters.

On April 25, 2018, 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 “agrees that petitioner’s SIRVA was caused-in-fact by the hepatitis B vaccination administered in her left arm on May 20, 2015. *Id.* at 2.

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<sup>1</sup> Because this unpublished ruling contains a reasoned explanation for the action in this case, the undersigned intends to post it on the United States Court of Federal Claims’ website,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). 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, the undersigned agrees that the identified material fits within this definition, the undersigned 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 (2012).

Respondent further agrees that no other causes for petitioner's SIRVA were identified, the statutory six month sequela requirement has been satisfied and, thus, "petitioner has satisfied all legal prerequisites for compensation under the Act." *Id.*

**In view of respondent's position and the evidence of record, the undersigned finds that petitioner is entitled to compensation.**

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

**s/Nora Beth Dorsey**

Nora Beth Dorsey  
Chief Special Master