

**IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS
OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS**

No. 11-737V

Filed: May 23, 2013

ALYSSA TIERNEY,

*

Petitioner,

*

v.

*

Stipulation; Meningococcal
Vaccine; Neurological Injury

*

SECRETARY OF HEALTH
AND HUMAN SERVICES,

*

*

*

Respondent.

*

DECISION ON JOINT STIPULATION¹

Vowell, Special Master:

Alyssa Tierney [“petitioner”] filed a petition for compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program² on November 4, 2011.³ Petitioner alleges that she suffered a neurological injury as a result of a meningococcal vaccine vaccination she received on November 10, 2008, and she further alleges that she experienced residual effects of this injury for more than six months. See Stipulation, filed May 23, 2013, at ¶¶ 2, 4. Respondent denies that petitioner’s meningococcal vaccine is the cause of her alleged neurological injury. Stipulation at ¶ 6.

Nevertheless, the parties have agreed to settle the case. On May 23, 2013, the parties filed a joint stipulation agreeing to settle this case and describing the settlement terms.

¹ Because this unpublished decision contains a reasoned explanation for the action in this case, I intend to post this decision on the United States Court of Federal Claims' website, in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), a party has 14 days to identify and move to delete medical or other information, that satisfies the criteria in 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-12(d)(4)(B). Further, consistent with the rule requirement, a motion for redaction must include a proposed redacted decision. If, upon review, I agree that the identified material fits within the requirements of that provision, I will delete 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 “§” references to the Vaccine Act will be to the pertinent subparagraph of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa (2006).

³ As Alyssa did not reach the age of majority until April 25, 2012, her mother, Maryanne Tierney, filed the petition on Alyssa’s behalf.

Respondent agrees to pay petitioner:

A lump sum of \$10,000.00 in the form of a check payable to petitioner, Alyssa Tierney. This amount represents compensation for all damages that would be available under § 300aa-15(a).

The special master adopts the parties' stipulation attached hereto, and awards compensation in the amount and on the terms set forth therein. The clerk of the court is directed to enter judgment in accordance with this decision.²

IT IS SO ORDERED.

s/ Denise K. Vowell

Denise K. Vowell
Special Master

² Pursuant to Vaccine Rule 11(a), entry of judgment can be expedited by each party filing a notice renouncing the right to seek review.

**IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF FEDERAL CLAIMS
OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS**

ALYSSA TIERNEY,)	
)	
Petitioner,)	No. 11-737V ECF
v.)	Special Master Vowell
)	
SECRETARY OF HEALTH)	
AND HUMAN SERVICES,)	
)	
Respondent.)	
)	

STIPULATION

The parties hereby stipulate to the following matters:

1. Petitioner, Alyssa Tierney, filed a petition for compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. §§ 300aa-1 to 34 (the "Vaccine Program").¹ The petition seeks compensation for injuries allegedly related to receipt of meningococcal vaccine, which is contained in the Vaccine Injury Table (the "Table"), 42 C.F.R. § 100.3(a).
2. Petitioner received the meningococcal vaccine on November 10, 2008.
3. The vaccine was administered within the United States.
4. Petitioner alleges that, as a result of receiving the vaccine, she suffered a neurological injury, and that this injury persisted for longer than six months.
5. Petitioner represents that there has been no prior award or settlement of a civil action for damages as a result of an alleged vaccine-related injury.
6. Respondent denies that the vaccine caused a neurological injury to petitioner, or any

1. The petition was originally filed by Maryanne Tierney, on behalf of Alyssa Tierney. Upon reaching the age of majority, petitioner was substituted as the proper petitioner. Order of May 17, 2013, ECF No. 36.

other injuries.

7. Maintaining their above-stated positions, the parties nevertheless now agree that the issues between them shall be settled and that a decision should be entered awarding the compensation described in paragraph 8 of this Stipulation.

8. As soon as practicable after an entry of judgment reflecting a decision consistent with the terms of this Stipulation, and after petitioner has filed an election to receive compensation pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-21(a)(1), the Secretary of Health and Human Services will issue the following vaccine compensation payment:

A lump sum of \$10,000.00, in the form of a check payable to petitioner, representing compensation for all damages that would be available under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a).

9. As soon as practicable after the entry of judgment on entitlement in this case, and after petitioner has filed both a proper and timely election to receive compensation pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-21(a)(1), and an application, the parties will submit to further proceedings before the special master to award reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incurred in proceeding upon this petition.

10. Petitioner and her attorney represent that compensation to be provided pursuant to this Stipulation is not for any items or services for which the Program is not primarily liable under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(g), to the extent that payment has been made or can reasonably be expected to be made under any State compensation programs, insurance policies, Federal or State health benefits programs (other than Title XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. § 1396 et seq.)), or by entities that provide health services on a pre-paid basis.

11. Payment made pursuant to paragraph 8 of this Stipulation, and any amount awarded pursuant to paragraph 9 of this Stipulation, will be made in accordance with 42 U.S.C.

§ 300aa-15(i), subject to the availability of sufficient statutory funds.

12. The parties and their attorneys further agree and stipulate that, except for any award for attorneys' fees and litigation costs, the money provided pursuant to this Stipulation will be used solely for the benefit of petitioner, as contemplated by a strict construction of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a) and (d), and subject to the conditions of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(g) and (h).

13. In return for the payment described in paragraph 8, and any payments that may be made as described in paragraph 9, petitioner, in her individual capacity, and on behalf of her heirs, executors, administrators, successors or assigns, does forever irrevocably and unconditionally release, acquit and discharge the United States and the Secretary of Health and Human Services from any and all actions, causes of action (including agreements, judgments, claims, damages, loss of services, expenses and all demands of whatever kind or nature) that have been brought, could have been brought, or could be timely brought in the Court of Federal Claims, under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-10 et seq., on account of, or in any way growing out of, any and all known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected personal injuries to or death of petitioner resulting from, or alleged to have resulted from, the meningococcal vaccine administered on November 10, 2008, as alleged by petitioner in a petition for vaccine compensation filed on or about November 4, 2011, in the United States Court of Federal Claims as petition No. 11-737V.

14. If petitioner should die prior to entry of judgment, this agreement shall be voidable upon proper notice to the Court on behalf of either or both of the parties.

15. If the special master fails to issue a decision in complete conformity with the terms of this Stipulation or if the Court of Federal Claims fails to enter judgment in conformity with a decision that is in complete conformity with the terms of this Stipulation, then the parties'

settlement and this Stipulation shall be voidable at the sole discretion of either party.

16. This Stipulation expresses a full and complete negotiated settlement of liability and damages claimed under the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, as amended, except as otherwise noted in paragraph 9 above. There is absolutely no agreement on the part of the parties hereto to make any payment or to do any act or thing other than is herein expressly stated and clearly agreed to. The parties further agree and understand that the award described in this stipulation may reflect a compromise of the parties' respective positions as to liability and/or amount of damages.

17. This Stipulation shall not be construed as an admission by the United States or the Secretary of Health and Human Services that the meningococcal vaccine caused petitioner to suffer from her alleged injuries, or any other injury.

18. All rights and obligations of petitioner hereunder shall apply equally to petitioner's heirs, executors, administrators, successors, and/or assigns, as legal representative of petitioner.

END OF STIPULATION

Respectfully submitted,

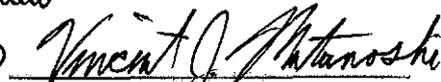
PETITIONER:


ALYSSA TIERNEY

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Dated: 5/23/13