

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO
EASTERN DIVISION**

IN RE: SULZER HIP PROSTHESIS)	Civil Action No.: 01-CV-9000
AND KNEE PROSTHESIS PRODUCT)	
LIABILITY LITIGATION)	ALL CASES
)	
<i>This document relates to:</i>)	(MDL No. 1401)
<i>Sharon Puerta</i>)	
)	Judge Kathleen M. O'Malley

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MASTER DETERMINATION

Class Member Sharon Puerta, by and through her attorney Heather A. Foster, Esq. of the Law Firm Loeff, Cabraser, Heimann & Bernstein (“Appellant”), appealed the decision of the Claims Administrator (“Appellee”) in rendering a Final Determination dated January 21, 2004 on Appellant’s claim for Extraordinary Injury Fund (“EIF”) benefits from the Sulzer Settlement Trust.

Appellant appealed the decision of the Appellee, and contends that Appellee erred in his decision to deny Appellant’s claim for EIF Matrix Level IX benefits.

The factual findings of this matter are as follows:

1. Appellant submitted a claim for EIF Matrix Level IX benefits.
2. Appellant seeks Matrix Level IX benefits for chronic upper extremity pain, anterior thigh pain with swelling and numbness, chronic left hip pain, physical therapy, and left hip aspirations.
3. Appellee issued Preliminary and Final Determinations that Appellant was not eligible for EIF Matrix Level IX benefits.

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AND KNEE PROSTHESIS PRODUCT
LIABILITY LITIGATION**

Notice of Special Master Determination

Sharon Puerta

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After a thorough review of the appeal submitted by the Appellant and the response submitted by the Appellee, the Special Master finds as follows:

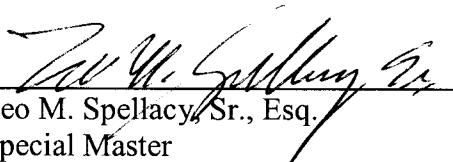
CAP 30 §3 requires that a Class member who desires to note an appeal must submit a document that identifies the provision of the Settlement Agreement or CAP that supports his or her claim, attach a narrative explanation in support of his or her position, and submit copies of any documents previously supplied to the Claims Administrator as proof of his or her eligibility for benefits.

Appellant has not submitted an appeal that conforms to the requirements of CAP 30. Her appeal does not include any documents proving her eligibility for benefits. There were no medical records submitted that evidence chronic upper extremity pain, anterior thigh pain with swelling and numbness, chronic left hip pain, physical therapy, or left hip aspirations.

Because there was no evidence for the Special Master to consider, Appellant's appeal is hereby DISMISSED, and Appellee's January 21, 2004 Final Determination of ineligibility for Appellant's claim for EIF benefits is final and may not be further contested or appealed.

MAY 03 2004

Date


Leo M. Spellacy, Sr., Esq.
Special Master