#### U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

# Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

## In the Matter of VERONICA M. SKALING and DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, VETERANS ADMINISTRATION MEDICAL CENTER, Providence, RI

Docket No. 01-701; Submitted on the Record; Issued April 11, 2002

#### **DECISION** and **ORDER**

### Before ALEC J. KOROMILAS, DAVID S. GERSON, MICHAEL E. GROOM

The issue is whether appellant's requested back surgery was causally related to her June 2, 1976 work injuries.

The Board has given careful consideration to the issue involved, the contentions of the parties on appeal and the entire case record. The Board finds that the July 25, 2000 decision of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs is in accordance with the facts and the law in this case and hereby adopts the findings and conclusions of the Office hearing representative.

The July 25, 2000 decision of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs is affirmed.

Dated, Washington, DC April 11, 2002

> Alec J. Koromilas Member

> David S. Gerson Alternate Member

Michael E. Groom Alternate Member