U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

In the Matter of JOSEPHINE WOELFEL <u>and</u> DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, VETERANS ADMINISTRATION MEDICAL CENTER, Lyons, NJ

Docket No. 99-1463; Submitted on the Record; Issued December 14, 2000

DECISION and ORDER

Before WILLIE T.C. THOMAS, MICHAEL E. GROOM, VALERIE D. EVANS-HARRELL

The issues are: (1) whether appellant sustained greater than a two percent permanent impairment of the right lower extremity for which she received a schedule award; and (2) whether the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs properly denied her request to participate in the selection of a referee physician.

The Board has given careful consideration to the issues involved, the contentions of the parties on appeal and the entire case record. The Board finds that the decision of the Office hearing representative, dated and finalized December 18, 1998, 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 decision of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs dated and finalized December 18, 1998 is hereby affirmed.

Dated, Washington, DC December 14, 2000

> Willie T.C. Thomas Member

Michael E. Groom Alternate Member

Valerie D. Evans-Harrell Alternate Member