U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

In the Matter of ALBERTA A. JOHNSON-ARRUDA <u>and</u> DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, VETERANS ADMINISTRATION MEDICAL CENTER, Lincoln, Nebr.

Docket No. 97-870; Submitted on the Record; Issued September 23, 1998

DECISION and ORDER

Before GEORGE E. RIVERS, MICHAEL E. GROOM, BRADLEY T. KNOTT

The issue is whether appellant sustained a recurrence of disability on February 24, 1995 causally related to her March 5, 1994 employment injury.

The Board has given careful consideration to the issue involved, the contentions of appellant on appeal, and the entire case record. The Board finds that the decision of the hearing representative of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs dated September 25, 1996 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 September 25, 1996 is hereby affirmed.

Dated, Washington, D.C. September 23, 1998

> George E. Rivers Member

Michael E. Groom Alternate Member

Bradley T. Knott Alternate Member