U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

In the Matter of EASTER I. SHEPHERD <u>and</u> DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, BROADVIEW HEIGHTS VETERANS ADMINISTRATION HOSPITAL, Brecksville, OH

Docket No. 99-327; Submitted on the Record; Issued May 5, 2000

DECISION and **ORDER**

Before GEORGE E. RIVERS, DAVID S. GERSON, A. PETER KANJORSKI

The issue is whether appellant has established that she developed a torn cartilage in her right knee either in the performance of duty, causally related to factors of her federal employment, or as a consequential injury from overuse due to the favoring of her left knee related to her accepted left lateral meniscus tear.

The Board has given careful consideration to the issue involved, the complete case record and appellant's contentions on appeal. The Board finds that the decision of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs' hearing representative dated September 2, 1998 is in accordance with the facts and the law in this case and hereby adopts the findings and conclusions of the hearing representative.

Accordingly, the decision of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs dated September 2, 1998 is hereby affirmed.

Dated, Washington, D.C. May 5, 2000

George E. Rivers Member

David S. Gerson Member

A. Peter Kanjorski Alternate Member