

WILLIAM FLENNIKEN)	
)	
Claimant-Petitioner)	
)	
v.)	
)	
STEVEDORING SERVICES)	
OF AMERICA)	DATE ISSUED: _____
)	
and)	
)	
EAGLE PACIFIC INSURANCE)	
COMPANY)	
)	
Employer/Carrier-)	
Respondents)	DECISION and ORDER

Appeal of the Decision and Order and the Order Upon Reconsideration of Alexander Karst, Administrative Law Judge, United States Department of Labor.

Richard Mark Baker (Cantrell, Green, Pekich, Cruz & McCort), Long Beach, California, for claimant.

Eugene L. Chrzanowski (Littler, Mendelson, Fastiff, Tichy & Mathiason), Long Beach, California, for employer/carrier.

Before: HALL, Chief Administrative Appeals Judge, SMITH and BROWN, Administrative Appeals Judges.

PER CURIAM:

Claimant appeals the Decision and Order and the Order Upon Reconsideration (92-LHC-216) of Administrative Law Judge Alexander Karst rendered on a claim filed pursuant to the provisions of the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act, as amended, 33 U.S.C. §901 *et seq.* (the Act). We must affirm the administrative law judge's findings of fact and conclusions of law if they are supported by substantial evidence, are rational, and are in accordance with law. 33 U.S.C. §921(b)(3); *O'Keeffe v. Smith, Hinchman & Grylls Associates, Inc.*, 380 U.S. 359 (1965).

On June 15, 1989, claimant, a signalman, was injured when his left arm and left leg were run over by the rear wheels of a chassis. Claimant fractured his left leg and ankle, and also sustained back, neck, right shoulder and left arm injuries. Tr. at 19-24; Emp. Ex. 2. The administrative law judge awarded temporary total disability benefits from June 15, 1989, through April 25, 1991, when doctors stated that claimant's condition had reached maximum medical improvement, and permanent partial disability benefits pursuant to Section 8(c)(2) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. §908(c)(2), for the permanent impairment to claimant's left leg. Decision and Order at 5; Order on Recon. The administrative law judge also awarded medical benefits: he awarded all reasonable care for all injuries caused by the work incident which was received prior to April 25, 1991, and, thereafter, only reasonable care for injuries to the left lower extremity. Decision and Order at 5. Both parties moved for reconsideration. The administrative law judge denied claimant's motion, and amended typographical errors in his original decision in accordance with employer's motion. Claimant appeals these decisions, and employer responds, urging affirmance.

Claimant challenges the denial of medical benefits after April 25, 1991. He argues that injuries to his neck, back and shoulder are work-related, and that he is not required to show that they caused a permanent impairment to be entitled to future medical benefits. Employer responds, arguing that the Section 20(a) presumption, 33 U.S.C. §920(a), does not aid claimant in showing either the necessity or reasonableness of further medical care or the nature and extent of impairment. Additionally, employer asserts that claimant's conditions other than those related to his left leg injuries resolved by April 25, 1991.

Under the Act, to be compensable, medical treatment must be related to and appropriate for the work-related injury; however, the injury need not be economically disabling. *Frye v. Potomac Electric Power Co.*, 21 BRBS 194 (1988); *Ballesteros v. Willamette Western Corp.*, 20 BRBS 184 (1988). Where the work-related condition has completely resolved, further medical treatment is unnecessary and is not compensable. *Brooks v. Newport News Shipbuilding & Dry Dock Co.*, 26 BRBS 1 (1992), *aff'd sub nom. Brooks v. Director, OWCP*, 2 F.3d 64, 27 BRBS 100 (CRT) (4th Cir. 1993). In this case, the administrative law judge found that claimant's conditions, excluding those related to his left leg injuries, resolved, reaching pre-injury status. Decision and Order at 3-5. With regard to future medical benefits, he credited the opinions of Drs. Harris and London, who stated that claimant's back, neck and right shoulder conditions had resolved as of April 1991 and did not require further medical attention. Emp. Exs. 2-3, 8. These opinions constitute substantial evidence supporting the administrative law judge's denial of medical benefits for treatment related to claimant's back, neck and right shoulder injuries after April 25, 1991, and we thus affirm his finding. *Brooks*, 26 BRBS at 7.

Accordingly, the administrative law judge's Decision and Order is affirmed.

SO ORDERED.

BETTY JEAN HALL, Chief
Administrative Appeals Judge

ROY P. SMITH
Administrative Appeals Judge

JAMES F. BROWN
Administrative Appeals Judge