

APPEAL NO. 011546
FILED AUGUST 17, 2001

This appeal arises pursuant to the Texas Workers' Compensation Act, TEX. LAB. CODE ANN. § 401.001 *et seq.* (1989 Act). A contested case hearing was held on June 7, 2001. The hearing officer determined that the compensable back injury of the appellant (claimant) did not extend to his neck and right knee. Claimant appealed this determination on sufficiency grounds. Respondent (carrier) responded that the Appeals Panel should affirm the hearing officer's decision and order.

DECISION

We affirm.

We have reviewed the complained-of determination and conclude that the issue involved a fact question for the hearing officer. The hearing officer reviewed the record and decided what facts were established. There was evidence from several doctors indicating that claimant's right leg and knee pain was thought to be pain radiating or extending down into the leg due to nerves affected by his back injury. Based on the evidence in the record, the hearing officer decided that claimant's injury did not extend to the neck and right knee. We conclude that the hearing officer's determination is not so against the great weight and preponderance of the evidence as to be clearly wrong or manifestly unjust. Cain v. Bain, 709 S.W.2d 175, 176 (Tex. 1986). However, we would note that, in any case, claimant is entitled to medical care for "effects naturally resulting from the compensable injury." Section 408.021(a)(1).

We affirm the hearing officer's decision and order.

Judy L. S. Barnes
Appeals Judge

CONCUR:

Elaine M. Chaney
Appeals Judge

Robert W. Potts
Appeals Judge