

Citation Evidence Report

EB-2 NIW Petition — National Interest Waiver

Matter of Dhanasar · Prong 2 (well-positioned)

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[Google Scholar profile](#)

Generated 2026-05-21 by CiteMap. This report organises Google Scholar citation data into the structure USCIS adjudicators apply to Prong 2 of Matter of Dhanasar (the petitioner is well positioned to advance the proposed endeavor) — the prong where past citation evidence is most probative. It is a drafting aid for the petitioner’s counsel — not legal advice, and not a guarantee of any outcome. All figures must be verified, and citation counts re-snapshotted as of the petition filing date, before use in a filing.

A. Overview & Filtering Statement

8 Citing papers mapped	8 Citation edges	1 Home papers mapped	96 h-index (GS)
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Filtering statement – methodology & limits

Citation **independence** is classified per citing paper by comparing the citing paper’s authors to this scholar. *Self* citations are those where the scholar is an author of the citing work; *co-author* citations are by the scholar’s known collaborators; *same-institution* citations are by authors affiliated with the scholar’s institution(s); all remaining classified citations are *independent*. Per AAO practice, only independent citations are treated as probative of influence beyond the scholar’s own circle.

Known limitations – counsel must verify. (1) Collaborator identification draws on the co-author list published on the Google Scholar profile; a collaborator not listed there may be missed, so the independent share below should be read as an **upper bound**. (2) Citation counts are a crawl-time snapshot; eligibility is judged as of the petition filing date and post-filing citations carry no weight – re-snapshot before filing. (3) Citations that could not be classified (no author data) are excluded from the percentages and reported separately.

B. Citation Independence

The AAO credits citations only where they show influence **beyond the scholar’s own circle**. Self-citations and co-author citations are expressly discounted; the independent share below is the load-bearing figure.

87.5% independent of 8 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	7
Self-citation	0
Co-author	0
Same-institution	1

0 citing papers could not be classified (no author data) and are excluded from the percentages above.

C. Significant Contributions & Their Citation Evidence

Each contribution below is presented as the AAO expects: a specific claim, followed by the **independent** citation evidence for the paper(s) that carry it. Citation counts are stated **per article**, never as a body-of-work total – the AAO holds aggregate totals to be a final-merits signal, not Criterion-5 evidence.

Where the data allows, a paper also shows its **field-normalised** standing – how its citation count ranks against Semantic Scholar papers in the same field and publication year. The comparison field is named explicitly; counsel should confirm it is the appropriate one, as the AAO scrutinises a petitioner’s choice of comparison field.

Contribution 1

Claim – Contribution 1

The researcher produced a seminal pooled analysis of global BMI trends from 1975 to 2016, establishing a critical baseline for understanding worldwide obesity and underweight prevalence across diverse populations.

The researcher’s primary contribution is a comprehensive pooled analysis of body-mass index trends, published in The Lancet in 2017. This work synthesizes data from 2,416 population-based studies involving nearly 129 million individuals, offering a unified view of global weight status changes over four decades.

This line of work appears to address the need for standardized, large-scale longitudinal data on global anthropometric trends. By aggregating disparate population-based measurements, the research provides a robust empirical foundation for tracking shifts in underweight, overweight, and obesity rates, filling a gap in comparative global health surveillance.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its high citation count, indicating substantial uptake by the scientific community. Furthermore, the high proportion of citations from independent researchers suggests that the work has served as a foundational reference for diverse studies beyond the researcher’s immediate network, validating its broad impact on public health research.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 7

CORE PAPER

[Worldwide trends in body-mass index, underweight, overweight, and obesity from 1975 to 2016: a pooled analysis of 2416 population-based measurement studies in 128.9 million children, adolescents, and adults](#)

2017 · The Lancet · 10,168 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 5,526 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Medicine papers from 2017 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	2021 ESC Guidelines on cardiovascular disease prevention in clinical practice (2021)	Academy of Athens, Amsterdam UMC, Amsterdam UMC, Vrije Universiteit	Belgium, France, Germany	—
2	2022 ESC Guidelines on cardiovascular assessment and management of patients undergoing non-cardiac surgery: Developed by the task force for cardiovascular assessment and management of patients undergoing non-cardiac surgery of the European Society of Cardiology (ESC). Endorsed by the European Society of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care (ESAIC). (2022)	Akershus University Hospital and University of Oslo, Austria, Cairo University	Austria, Belgium, Denmark	—
3	Global Prevalence of Overweight and Obesity in Children and Adolescents: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis (2024)	Alberta Health Services, Chongqing Medical University, Sichuan University	Canada, China	—
4	Update on the Obesity Epidemic: After the Sudan Rise, Is the Upward Trajectory Beginning to Flatten? (2023)	National Kapodistrian University of Athens	Greece	—
5	2024 Heart Disease and Stroke Statistics: A Report of US and Global Data from the American Heart Association (2024)	American Heart Association, American Heart Association / Columbia University, American	Brazil, Canada, China	—

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
		Heart Association & Columbia University		
6	Child and adolescent obesity (2023)	Durham University, Erasmus MC, University Medical Center Rotterdam, Karolinska Institutet and Karolinska University Hospital	Australia, Germany, Netherlands	—
7	Global, regional, and national prevalence of child and adolescent overweight and obesity, 1990–2021, with forecasts to 2050: a forecasting study for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2021 (2025)	Aleta Wondo General Hospital, Alexandria University, Cairo University	Australia, Egypt, Ethiopia	—

Independent citing papers only; self- and co-author citations excluded. The S2 column flags citations Semantic Scholar identifies as *influential* – ones that substantively build on the work (S2's isInfluential signal, Valenzuela et al. 2015) – the “built on / relied upon” pattern the AAO credits. Counsel should quote the citing text for the strongest of these.

D. Citing-Institution Prestige & Geography

Top citing institutions

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
University of Washington	United States	SCImago #45 · THE 25 · QS 81	3
Tanta University	Egypt	SCImago #4228 · THE 1001–1200 · QS 1201-1400	2
University of Management and Technology	Pakistan	SCImago #3979 · THE 801–1000 · QS 1201-1400	2
Cairo University	Egypt	SCImago #997 · THE 801–1000 · QS =347	2
Oslo University Hospital	Norway	SCImago #781	2
University Medical Center Groningen	Netherlands	SCImago #448	2
Alexandria University	Egypt	SCImago #2524 · THE 801–1000 · QS 781-790	2
Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation	United States	SCImago #37	2
Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME)	United States	SCImago #37	2
Patient Representative	United Kingdom	—	2
Oslo University Hospital Ullevål	Norway	—	2
UT Southwestern Medical Center	United States	—	1
Dutch Heart Foundation	Netherlands	—	1
Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School	United States	—	1
Sapienza Università di Roma	Italy	—	1

Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
United States	3
Australia	3
China	3
Egypt	3
Germany	3
Italy	3
Netherlands	3
Sweden	3
United Kingdom	3
Turkey	2
Greece	2
Switzerland	2

Citing-institution prestige and the spread of citing countries speak to recognition **beyond the scholar's own institution and circle** – the dispersion the AAO looks for. World rankings (SCImago / THE / QS) are context, not a stand-alone criterion: the AAO does not treat a citing institution's rank as probative on its own.

E. Citation Growth Over Time

Distinct citing papers by publication year. Sustained or rising citation activity supports continuing relevance; note that only citations **as of the filing date** are weighed by USCIS.

2023		2
2024		2
2025		2

F. AAO Precedent Considerations

Pre-filing self-check (AAO denial patterns)

The AAO non-precedent decisions reject citation evidence on a small set of recurring grounds. Confirm the petition addresses each before filing:

- Self-citations are disclosed and netted out – a Google Scholar total alone is faulted (§1.1).
- Evidence is per individual article, not a body-of-work aggregate total (§1.2).
- The petition articulates why the citations show major significance – numbers never stand alone (§1.5).
- For the strongest papers, citation content shows the work was built on / relied upon, not just listed (§1.6, §2.2).
- Co-author / collaborator citations are identified and not counted as independent (§1.7).
- Recognition is shown beyond the scholar's own institution and circle (§1.8).
- Every citation figure is snapshotted as of the filing date; post-filing citations are excluded (§1.9).
- Journal impact factor / downloads are not relied on as proxies for article significance (§1.10, §1.12).

- For large-collaboration papers, the scholar's specific role is documented (§1.13).
- Aggregate totals / h-index / field-relative rates are placed in a clearly-labelled final-merits section, per Kazarian (§3, §6.1.7).

Disclaimer

The AAO decisions referenced here are **non-precedent** — persuasive illustrations of how USCIS reasons, not binding law. This report is a drafting aid produced from public citation data; it is not legal advice and does not assess the petition’s merits. All analysis must be reviewed by qualified immigration counsel.

G. Citation Evidence Index

Cross-reference of each contribution to the regulatory criterion it supports. Counsel should map these to the petition’s exhibit numbers.

Contribution	Core paper	Indep. cites	Supports
Contribution 1	Worldwide trends in body-mass index, underweight, overweight, and obesity from 1975 to 2016: a pooled analysis of 2416 population-based measurement studies in 128.9 million children, adolescents, and adults	7	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)