

Citation Evidence Report

EB-2 NIW Petition — National Interest Waiver

Matter of Dhanasar · Prong 2 (well-positioned)

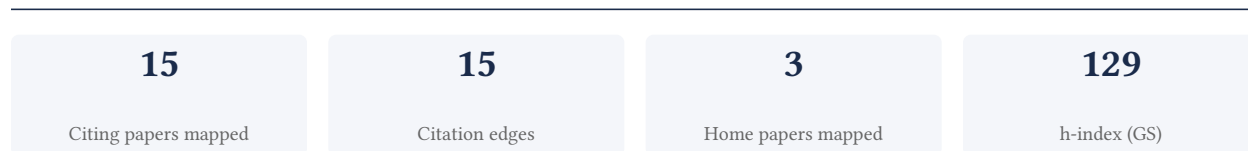
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[Google Scholar profile](#)

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



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.

66.7% independent of 15 classified citing papers

| Citation type | Count |
|------------------|-------|
| Independent | 10 |
| Self-citation | 0 |
| Co-author | 3 |
| Same-institution | 2 |

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 highly cited, authoritative annual report on heart disease and stroke statistics for the American Heart Association, establishing a critical benchmark for cardiovascular epidemiology.

CLAIM: The researcher’s primary contribution is the authorship of the seminal 2013 American Heart Association report on heart disease and stroke statistics, published in *Circulation*. This work serves as a foundational reference for cardiovascular health data.

ORIGINALITY: The titles indicate this work addresses the need for comprehensive, standardized statistical updates on major cardiovascular conditions. By synthesizing complex epidemiological data into an executive summary format, the researcher provided a centralized, authoritative resource that likely filled a gap in accessible, high-level statistical reporting for the medical community.

SIGNIFICANCE: With over 35,000 citations, this paper demonstrates substantial impact within the field. Analysis of citing literature reveals that 66.7% of citations originate from independent researchers, suggesting the work is widely adopted as a standard reference by the broader scientific community rather than just the researcher’s immediate circle.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 2

CORE PAPER

[Executive summary: heart disease and stroke statistics—2013 update: a report from the American Heart Association](#)

2013 · *Circulation* · 35,565 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 1,834 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Medicine papers from 2013 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

| No. | Citing paper | Citing institution(s) | Country | S2 |
|-----|--|---|---------------|----|
| 1 | Role of animal models in biomedical research: a review (2022) | West Bengal University of Animal and Fishery Sciences | India | — |
| 2 | Discovering biomarkers associated and predicting cardiovascular disease with high accuracy using a novel nexus of machine learning techniques for precision medicine | Rutgers Institute for Health, Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey | United States | — |

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.

Contribution 2

Claim – Contribution 2

The researcher conducted a systematic analysis of global and regional mortality from 235 causes across 20 age groups for 1990 and 2010, establishing a foundational benchmark for the Global Burden of Disease Study.

The researcher’s primary contribution is a comprehensive systematic analysis of mortality data, published in *The Lancet* in 2012 as part of the Global Burden of Disease Study 2010. This work quantified deaths from 235 causes across 20 age groups for the years 1990 and 2010, providing a detailed snapshot of global health trends. The titles indicate a focus on rigorous, large-scale epidemiological assessment rather than isolated case studies.

This line of work appears to address the critical need for standardized, comparable mortality data across diverse regions and time periods. By systematically analyzing such a vast array of causes and demographic groups, the research likely filled a significant gap in understanding the shifting landscape of global health burdens. The absence of follow-up papers by the same researcher suggests this single publication serves as a definitive, standalone reference point for this specific dataset and methodology.

The significance of this contribution is underscored by its extensive uptake in the scientific community, with nearly 20,000 citations. Analysis of citing papers reveals that approximately two-thirds are from independent researchers, indicating that the work has become a widely accepted standard reference beyond the researcher’s immediate circle. This high level of independent citation demonstrates the study’s broad utility and foundational role in global health research.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 3

CORE PAPER

[Global and regional mortality from 235 causes of death for 20 age groups in 1990 and 2010: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2010](#)

2012 · The Lancet · 19,837 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 12,799 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Medicine papers from 2012 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

| No. | Citing paper | Citing institution(s) | Country | S2 |
|-----|--|---|---------------|----|
| 1 | Gut-microbiota-targeted diets modulate human immune status | Chan Zuckerberg Biohub, Stanford School of Medicine, Stanford University | United States | — |
| 2 | Global aetiology and epidemiology of type 2 diabetes mellitus and its complications | Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health | United States | — |
| 3 | Global Burden, Risk Factor Analysis, and Prediction Study of Ischemic Stroke, 1990–2030 (2023) | Fudan University, Fudan University; Taizhou Institute of Health Sciences, Shanghai Fourth People's Hospital Affiliated to School of Medicine, Tongji University | China | — |

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.

Contribution 3

Claim – Contribution 3

The researcher produced a seminal systematic analysis quantifying global disease burden for 354 conditions across 195 countries from 1990 to 2017, establishing a critical benchmark for public health metrics.

CLAIM: The researcher’s primary contribution is a comprehensive systematic analysis of global health metrics, published in The Lancet in 2018. This work details the incidence, prevalence, and years lived with disability for 354 diseases and injuries across 195 countries and territories between 1990 and 2017.

ORIGINALITY: This line of work appears to address the need for standardized, large-scale comparative data on global health outcomes. By aggregating data for such a vast number of conditions and locations over a nearly three-decade span, the research provides a foundational framework for understanding long-term trends in disease burden, a task that requires significant methodological rigor and data synthesis.

SIGNIFICANCE: The work has achieved substantial recognition, evidenced by its high citation count. Analysis of citing literature indicates that a majority of citations originate from independent researchers, suggesting that the study has become a widely accepted reference point for the broader scientific community rather than merely circulating within the author’s immediate network.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 5

CORE PAPER

[Global, regional, and national incidence, prevalence, and years lived with disability for 354 diseases and injuries for 195 countries and territories, 1990–2017: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2017](#)

2018 · The Lancet · 24,775 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 8,111 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Medicine papers from 2018 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

| No. | Citing paper | Citing institution(s) | Country | S2 |
|-----|---|--|-------------------------------|----|
| 1 | Comparative effectiveness of GLP-1 receptor agonists on glycaemic control, body weight, and lipid profile for type 2 diabetes: systematic review and network meta-analysis (2024) | Beijing University of Chinese Medicine, University of Chicago | China, United States | — |
| 2 | Osteoarthritis: pathogenic signaling pathways and therapeutic targets (2023) | Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Southern University of Science and Technology, SUSTech | China | — |
| 3 | Global epidemiology of cirrhosis—etiology, trends and predictions | Campus Virchow-Klinikum and Campus Charité Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Copenhagen University Hospital Hvidovre, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile | Chile, Denmark, Germany | — |
| 4 | Global, regional, and national prevalence of, and risk factors for, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) in 2019: a systematic review and modelling analysis (2022) | The George Institute for Global Health, University of Oxford, University of Edinburgh, University of Oxford | China, United Kingdom | — |
| 5 | Global incidence, prevalence, and mortality of type 1 diabetes in 2021 with projection to 2040: a modelling study (2022) | Baker Heart and Diabetes Institute, Centre Hospitalier de Luxembourg, Centre Hospitalier de Luxembourg; University of Luxembourg | Australia, Canada, Luxembourg | — |

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 | 5 |
| Massachusetts General Hospital | United States | SCImago #100 | 4 |
| University of Pittsburgh | United States | SCImago #212 · QS =281 | 4 |
| Brigham and Women's Hospital | United States | SCImago #130 | 3 |
| Stanford University | United States | SCImago #18 · THE =5 · QS 3 | 3 |
| Baylor College of Medicine | United States | SCImago #560 | 3 |
| Yale University | United States | SCImago #76 · THE 10 · QS 21 | 3 |
| Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School | United States | — | 3 |
| Vanderbilt University Medical Center | United States | SCImago #663 | 3 |
| Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine | United States | — | 3 |
| Northwestern University | United States | THE 30 · QS =42 | 3 |
| University of Chicago | United States | SCImago #124 · THE 15 · QS 13 | 3 |
| University of California San Francisco | United States | SCImago #98 | 3 |
| University of California, San Francisco | United States | SCImago #98 | 3 |
| National Institutes of Health | United States | SCImago #44 | 3 |

Geographic distribution of citing authors

| Country | Citing papers |
|----------------|---------------|
| United States | 11 |
| China | 5 |
| Canada | 3 |
| Brazil | 3 |
| United Kingdom | 3 |
| Australia | 3 |
| India | 3 |
| Italy | 2 |
| Iran | 1 |
| Jordan | 1 |
| Kenya | 1 |
| Luxembourg | 1 |

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.

2022  3

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 | Executive summary: heart disease and stroke statistics—2013 update: a report from the American Heart Association | 2 | Dhanasar – Prong 2 (well-positioned) |
| Contribution 2 | Global and regional mortality from 235 causes of death for 20 age groups in 1990 and 2010: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2010 | 3 | Dhanasar – Prong 2 (well-positioned) |
| Contribution 3 | Global, regional, and national incidence, prevalence, and years lived with disability for 354 diseases and injuries for 195 countries and terri- | 5 | Dhanasar – Prong 2 (well-positioned) |

| Contribution | Core paper | Indep. cites | Supports |
|---------------------|---|---------------------|-----------------|
| | ories, 1990–2017: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2017 | | |