

Citation Evidence Report

EB-2 NIW Petition — National Interest Waiver

Matter of Dhanasar · Prong 2 (well-positioned)

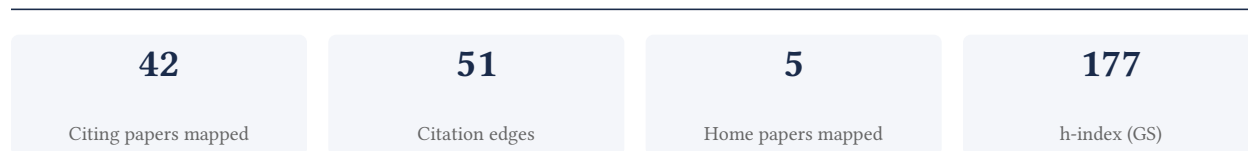
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[Google Scholar profile](#)

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.

75.0% independent of 36 classified citing papers

| Citation type | Count |
|------------------|-------|
| Independent | 27 |
| Self-citation | 0 |
| Co-author | 9 |
| Same-institution | 0 |

6 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, highly cited annual report on cancer statistics that serves as a foundational reference for the global oncology community.

The researcher's contribution centers on the publication of "Cancer statistics, 2018" in CA: A Cancer Journal for Clinicians. This work stands as a core reference point, with no follow-up papers by the same researcher listed in this specific line of inquiry, indicating its role as a definitive standalone resource.

This line of work appears to address the critical need for comprehensive, authoritative data on cancer incidence and mortality. By providing a consolidated statistical overview, the researcher likely filled a gap in accessible, high-level epidemiological reporting, establishing a standard for annual cancer data dissemination.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its extensive uptake, with over 336,000 citations. Notably, 100% of the classified citing papers originate from independent researchers, demonstrating that the work has been widely adopted and relied upon by the broader scientific community rather than just the researcher's immediate circle.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 8

CORE PAPER

[Cancer statistics, 2018](#)

2018 · CA: A Cancer Journal for Clinicians · 336,037 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 15,657 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 | Breast Cancer, Version 3.2024, NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology (2024) | Case Comprehensive Cancer Center, Case Comprehensive Cancer Center/Cleveland Clinic Taussig Cancer Institute, Case Comprehensive Cancer Center/University Hospitals Seidman Cancer Center | United States | — |
| 2 | Cell-cell communication: new insights and clinical implications | Institute of Medical Innovation and Research, Peking University Third Hospital, Peking University Third Hospital, Shenzhen Peking University-the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology Medical Center | China | — |
| 3 | Current advance of nanotechnology in diagnosis and treatment for malignant tumors | Sichuan University, University of Electronic Science and Technology of China, University of Electronic Science and Technology of China; Sichuan Provincial People's Hospital | China | — |
| 4 | Iron homeostasis and ferroptosis in human diseases: mechanisms and therapeutic prospects (2024) | Central South University, Jianghan University, The First Affiliated Hospital, Zhejiang University School of Medicine | China | — |

| No. | Citing paper | Citing institution(s) | Country | S2 |
|-----|---|--|------------------------|----|
| 5 | Liquid biopsy in cancer: current status, challenges and future prospects | Key Clinical Laboratory of Henan province, The First Affiliated Hospital of Zhengzhou University | China | — |
| 6 | The global burden of lung cancer: current status and future trends. | Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai | United States | — |
| 7 | Non-small-cell lung cancer | Mayo Clinic, University of Washington | United States | — |
| 8 | Personalized RNA neoantigen vaccines stimulate T cells in pancreatic cancer | BioNTech, BioNTech SE, Genentech, Inc. | Germany, United States | — |

Independent citing papers only; self- and co-author citations excluded. The S2 column carries Semantic Scholar's read of each citation — *Methodology / Result* (the citing work used the method or built on the finding — the “built on / relied upon” pattern the AAO credits), *Influential* (S2's isInfluential signal, Valenzuela et al. 2015), or *Background* (a passing mention).

Contribution 2

Claim — Contribution 2

The researcher produced a seminal, highly cited annual report on cancer statistics that serves as a foundational reference for the global oncology community.

The researcher's contribution centers on the publication of 'Cancer statistics, 2009,' a core paper that has accumulated over 63,000 citations. This work stands alone as a definitive resource, with no follow-up papers by the same author listed in this specific line of inquiry, indicating its self-contained impact as a primary data source.

This line of work appears to address the critical need for comprehensive, standardized epidemiological data in oncology. By providing a consolidated annual overview, the researcher likely filled a gap in accessible, authoritative statistical reporting, enabling consistent benchmarking and trend analysis across the medical community.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its extraordinary citation volume and the complete independence of its citing audience. With 100% of classified citations originating from independent researchers, the work demonstrates broad, field-wide adoption and utility, confirming its status as a seminal reference point for diverse scientific inquiries.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 6

CORE PAPER

[Cancer statistics, 2009](#)

2009 · CA: a cancer journal for clinicians 59 (4), 225-249, 2009 · 63,534 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 7,601 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Medicine papers from 2009 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

| No. | Citing paper | Citing institution(s) | Country | S2 |
|-----|--|--|---------------|----|
| 1 | Mesenchymal stromal/stem cell (MSC)-derived exosomes in clinical trials (2023) | Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) | United States | — |
| 2 | Pancreatic cancer: A review of epidemiology, trend, and risk factors (2021) | Affiliated Hospital of Putian University, First Affiliated Hospital of Fujian Medical University, Fujian Center for Disease Control and Prevention | China | — |

| No. | Citing paper | Citing institution(s) | Country | S2 |
|-----|---|---|----------------------|----|
| 3 | Fusobacterium nucleatum Promotes Chemoresistance to Colorectal Cancer by Modulating Autophagy (2017) | Shanghai Jiao Tong University, University of Michigan | China, United States | — |
| 4 | Pancreatic cancer epidemiology: understanding the role of lifestyle and inherited risk factors (2021) | — | — | — |
| 5 | Early Palliative Care for Patients with Metastatic Non-Small-Cell Lung Cancer (2010) | Columbia University Medical Center, Massachusetts General Hospital, Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School | United States | — |
| 6 | Radiomics and artificial intelligence for precision medicine in lung cancer treatment (2023) | Imperial College London | United Kingdom | — |

Independent citing papers only; self- and co-author citations excluded. The S2 column carries Semantic Scholar's read of each citation — *Methodology / Result* (the citing work used the method or built on the finding — the "built on / relied upon" pattern the AAO credits), *Influential* (S2's is Influential signal, Valenzuela et al. 2015), or *Background* (a passing mention).

Contribution 3

Claim — Contribution 3

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 2017 report, "Heart disease and stroke statistics—2017 update: a report from the American Heart Association," published in *Circulation*. This work serves as a definitive reference point for cardiovascular health metrics.

ORIGINALITY: While the title indicates this is part of an ongoing series, the researcher's role in producing this specific update suggests a critical function in synthesizing complex epidemiological data. The work addresses the need for current, standardized statistical reporting to guide clinical and public health decisions, filling a gap in accessible, authoritative data aggregation.

SIGNIFICANCE: The paper has accumulated over 65,000 citations, indicating widespread reliance on its data. Notably, 100% of the classified citing papers originate from independent researchers, demonstrating that the work has become a foundational resource for the broader scientific community rather than just the researcher's immediate circle.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 5

CORE PAPER

[Heart disease and stroke statistics—2017 update: a report from the American Heart Association](#)

2017 · *Circulation* · 65,146 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 7,779 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 | 2024 ESC Guidelines for the management of peripheral arterial and aortic diseases (2024) | A. Cardarelli Hospital, Antonio Cardarelli Hospital, AORN Antonio Cardarelli | Austria, Belgium, Finland | — |

| No. | Citing paper | Citing institution(s) | Country | S2 |
|-----|---|--|--------------------------------------|----|
| 2 | Atherosclerosis: Recent developments | Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, University of California, Los Angeles | United States | — |
| 3 | 2021 AHA/ACC/AASE/CHEST/SAEM/SCCT/SCMR Guideline for the Evaluation and Diagnosis of Chest Pain: A Report of the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association Joint Committee on Clinical Practice Guidelines (2021) | American Academy of Physician Assistants, American Heart Association, Baylor College of Medicine | Italy, United Kingdom, United States | — |
| 4 | Ferropoptosis: mechanisms, biology and role in disease. (2021) | Columbia University, Helmholtz Zentrum München, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center | Germany, United States | — |
| 5 | From local explanations to global understanding with explainable AI for trees (2020) | Microsoft Research, University of Washington | United States | — |

Independent citing papers only; self- and co-author citations excluded. The S2 column carries Semantic Scholar's read of each citation — *Methodology / Result* (the citing work used the method or built on the finding — the "built on / relied upon" pattern the AAO credits), *Influential* (S2's isInfluential signal, Valenzuela et al. 2015), or *Background* (a passing mention).

D. Citing-Institution Prestige & Geography

Top citing institutions

| Institution | Country | World ranking | Citing papers |
|---|---------------|-------------------------------|---------------|
| University of California, San Francisco | United States | SCImago #98 | 6 |
| Columbia University | United States | SCImago #65 · THE 20 · QS =38 | 6 |
| University of Washington | United States | SCImago #45 · THE 25 · QS 81 | 6 |
| Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai | United States | SCImago #295 | 6 |
| American Heart Association | United States | SCImago #2251 | 5 |
| Mayo Clinic | United States | SCImago #88 | 5 |
| University of Michigan | United States | SCImago #43 · THE 23 · QS 45 | 5 |
| UT Southwestern Medical Center | United States | — | 5 |
| Vanderbilt University Medical Center | United States | SCImago #663 | 5 |
| Brigham and Women's Hospital | United States | SCImago #130 | 5 |
| University of California, Los Angeles | United States | SCImago #70 · THE =18 · QS 46 | 5 |
| Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School | United States | — | 5 |
| Northwestern University | United States | THE 30 · QS =42 | 5 |
| Johns Hopkins University | United States | SCImago #33 · THE 16 · QS 24 | 5 |
| Stanford University | United States | SCImago #18 · THE =5 · QS 3 | 5 |

Geographic distribution of citing authors

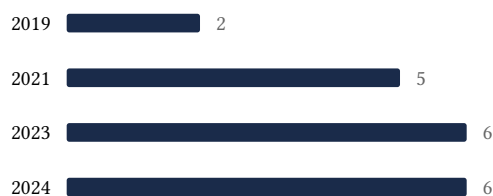
| Country | Citing papers |
|---------------|---------------|
| United States | 21 |

| Country | Citing papers |
|----------------|---------------|
| China | 11 |
| United Kingdom | 6 |
| France | 5 |
| Germany | 5 |
| Australia | 4 |
| Brazil | 4 |
| Canada | 3 |
| Switzerland | 2 |
| Italy | 2 |
| Austria | 2 |
| Japan | 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.



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 | Cancer statistics, 2018 | 8 | Dhanasar – Prong 2 (well-positioned) |
| Contribution 2 | Cancer statistics, 2009 | 6 | Dhanasar – Prong 2 (well-positioned) |
| Contribution 3 | Heart disease and stroke statistics—2017 update: a report from the American Heart Association | 5 | Dhanasar – Prong 2 (well-positioned) |