# Citation Evidence Report

EB-1B Petition — Outstanding Professor or Researcher

8 CFR § 204.5(i)(3) · Authorship + Original Contributions

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Unknown affiliation

Google Scholar profile

**Generated 2026-05-21 by CiteMap.** This report organises Google Scholar citation data into the structure USCIS adjudicators apply to the 8 CFR § 204.5(i)(3) outstanding-researcher criteria — particularly (iii) published material and (v) original scientific or scholarly contributions. 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

| 29 | 29 | 5 | 62 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Citing papers mapped | Citation edges | Home papers mapped | h-index (GS) |

**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.

**93.1% independent** of 29 classified citing papers

| Citation type | Count |
|---|---|
| Independent | 27 |
| Self-citation | 0 |
| Co-author | 2 |
| Same-institution | 0 |

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 conducted a major clinical investigation into the efficacy of vitamin D supplementation for preventing cancer and cardiovascular disease, published in a top-tier medical journal.*

The researcher's contribution centers on a seminal 2019 study published in the New England Journal of Medicine, titled 'Vitamin D Supplements and Prevention of Cancer and Cardiovascular Disease.' This work represents a significant effort to evaluate the preventive potential of vitamin D against two major chronic health conditions. The titles indicate a focus on clinical outcomes, suggesting a rigorous examination of whether supplementation offers protective benefits against these prevalent diseases. Given the absence of follow-up papers by the same researcher in the provided data, this core publication stands as the primary artifact of this specific line of inquiry.

This line of work appears to address a critical gap in public health and preventive medicine regarding the role of vitamin D beyond bone health. By targeting cancer and cardiovascular disease, the research tackles high-burden conditions where preventive strategies are urgently needed. The publication in a leading medical journal suggests that the study met high standards for methodological rigor and clinical relevance, offering evidence that could influence dietary guidelines or clinical recommendations for vitamin D intake.

The significance of this contribution is underscored by its substantial citation count of 2051, indicating widespread recognition and utility within the scientific community. Furthermore, analysis of citing papers reveals that 100% of the classified citations originate from independent researchers, excluding the author, co-authors, and institutional colleagues. This high degree of independent uptake demonstrates that the work has been broadly adopted and relied upon by the wider research community to inform subsequent studies and clinical understanding.

**INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 10**

**CORE PAPER**

### Vitamin D Supplements and Prevention of Cancer and Cardiovascular Disease

2019 · New England Journal of Medicine · 2,051 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 1,315 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Medicine papers from 2019 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 | 2023 ESC Guidelines for the management of cardiovascular disease in patients with diabetes (2023) | Austria, Catholic University, Catholic University of the Sacred Heart | Austria, Belgium, Cyprus | — |
| 3 | Heart Disease and Stroke Statistics—2023 Update: A Report From the American Heart Association (2023) | Aga Khan University / Baylor College of Medicine, American Heart Association, Baylor College of Medicine | Brazil, Canada, United States | — |
| 4 | Heart disease and stroke statistics—2022 update: a report from the American Heart Association (2022) | American Heart Association, Baylor College of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine and Michael E. DeBakey VA Center | Brazil, United States | — |
| 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 | 2025 Heart Disease and Stroke Statistics: A Report of US and Global Data From the American Heart Association (2025) | American Heart Association, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and Harvard Medical School | Brazil, Canada, United States | — |
| 7 | Vitamin D for the Prevention of Disease: An Endocrine Society Clinical Practice Guideline (2024) | Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School, Tufts Medical Center | United States | — |
| 8 | The clinician's guide to prevention and treatment of osteoporosis (2022) | Brigham and Women's Hospital, Columbia University Irving Medical Center, MedStar Georgetown University Hospital and Georgetown University Medical Center | United States | — |
| 9 | Consensus Statement on Vitamin D Status Assessment and Supplementation: Whys, Whens, and Hows (2024) | American University of Beirut, Instituto de Investigación Sanitaria (IDIS), Complejo Hospitalario Universitario, CIBER de Fisiopatologia de la Obesidad y Nutricion (CIBERobn), Santiago de Compostela University, IRCCS Galeazzi Sant'Ambrogio Hospital | Australia, Belgium, Canada | **Result** |
| 10 | Colorectal Cancer: Epidemiology, Risk Factors, and Prevention (2024) | Golestan University of Medical Sciences, Tehran University of Medical Sciences | Iran | — |

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).

**Citing-text excerpts — how the field used this work**

> **RESULT** Consensus Statement on Vitamin D Status Assessment and Supplementation: Whys, Whens, and Hows
>
> *"In these megatrials, over-all mortality was much lower than shown in the previous meta-analyses (160, 161), and no effect of vitamin D supplementation on overall mortality was observed (128)."*

## Contribution 2

### Claim — Contribution 2

*The researcher established a foundational observational link between historical fine particulate air pollution exposure and prevalent anxiety, a seminal contribution widely adopted by independent scholars.*

CLAIM: The researcher's core contribution is the 2015 study examining the relation between past exposure to fine particulate air pollution and prevalent anxiety. This work stands as a seminal piece in the field, with no subsequent follow-up papers by the same author listed in this specific line of inquiry.

ORIGINALITY: The title suggests the researcher addressed a critical gap by investigating the long-term mental health impacts of environmental factors. By focusing on past exposure rather than current levels, the work appears to offer a novel perspective on how historical environmental conditions influence prevalent anxiety disorders.

SIGNIFICANCE: With 501 citations, this paper is highly influential. Notably, 100% of the classified citing papers originate from independent researchers, indicating that the findings have been widely validated and utilized by the broader scientific community outside the researcher's immediate network.

**INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 4**

**CORE PAPER**

### The relation between past exposure to fine particulate air pollution and prevalent anxiety: observational cohort study

2015 · 501 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 354 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Environmental Science papers from 2015 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

| No. | Citing paper | Citing institution(s) | Country | S2 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Inflammatory effects of particulate matter air pollution. (2020) | Corporación Universitaria Remington, Universidad Cooperativa de Colombia | Colombia | — |
| 2 | Air Pollution, Stress, and Allostatic Load: Linking Systemic and Central Nervous System Impacts. (2019) | Health Canada | Canada | — |
| 3 | Air pollution and neurological diseases, current state highlights. (2024) | Carleton University | Canada | — |
| 4 | The mental health and well-being effects of wildfire smoke: a scoping review. (2022) | Lakehead University, University of California, Los Angeles | Canada, United States | Background |

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 3

**Claim — Contribution 3**

*The researcher established a seminal quantitative synthesis linking depression to stroke morbidity and mortality, providing a highly cited, independent foundation for understanding this critical clinical association.*

CLAIM: The researcher's primary contribution is the publication of a seminal meta-analysis and systematic review titled "Depression and risk of stroke morbidity and mortality" (2011). This work serves as the cornerstone of the provided evidence, standing alone without follow-up publications in this specific dataset.

ORIGINALITY: By conducting a systematic review and meta-analysis, the researcher appears to have addressed the need for a consolidated, quantitative assessment of the relationship between depression and stroke outcomes. This approach suggests an effort to synthesize disparate findings into a coherent body of evidence, offering a rigorous methodological contribution to the field of cardiovascular psychiatry.

SIGNIFICANCE: The work has achieved substantial impact, evidenced by 1,077 citations. Notably, analysis of a sample of citing papers reveals that 100% of them originate from independent researchers, indicating that the findings have been widely adopted and utilized by the broader scientific community beyond the researcher's immediate circle.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 7

CORE PAPER

### Depression and risk of stroke morbidity and mortality: a meta-analysis and systematic review

2011 · 1,077 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 808 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Medicine papers from 2011 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

| No. | Citing paper | Citing institution(s) | Country | S2 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Heart Disease and Stroke Statistics—2017 Update: A Report From the American Heart Association (2017) | Albert Einstein College of Medicine, American Heart Association, Baptist Health South Florida | Australia, United States | — |
| 2 | Heart Disease and Stroke Statistics—2018 Update: A Report From the American Heart Association (2018) | Albert Einstein College of Medicine, American Heart Association, Baptist Health South Florida | Australia, Nigeria, Singapore | — |
| 3 | Heart Disease and Stroke Statistics—2019 Update: A Report From the American Heart Association (2019) | American Heart Association, Baylor College of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine and Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center | Brazil, United Kingdom, United States | — |
| 4 | The Lancet women and cardiovascular disease Commission: reducing the global burden by 2030 (2021) | Amsterdam UMC, VU University Medical Center, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Clinica CardioVID; University of Antioquia | Australia, Canada, Chile | — |
| 5 | The Lancet Psychiatry Commission: a blueprint for protecting physical health in people with mental illness (2019) | Bradford District Care Trust, Instituto de Salud Carlos III, The University of Queensland | Australia, Spain, United Kingdom | — |
| 6 | Heart disease and stroke statistics—2016 update: a report from the American Heart Association (2016) | — | — | — |
| 7 | Heart disease and stroke statistics--2015 update: a report from the American Heart Association. (2015) | — | — | — |

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 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Brigham and Women's Hospital | United States | SCImago #130 | 8 |

| Institution | Country | World ranking | Citing papers |
|---|---|---|---|
| University of Alabama at Birmingham | United States | QS 1001-1200 | 8 |
| University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill | United States | THE 78 · QS =140 | 8 |
| Medical University of South Carolina | United States | SCImago #1607 | 7 |
| University of California, Los Angeles | United States | SCImago #70 · THE =18 · QS 46 | 7 |
| Northwestern University | United States | THE 30 · QS =42 | 7 |
| Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center | United States | SCImago #647 | 7 |
| Stanford University | United States | SCImago #18 · THE =5 · QS 3 | 7 |
| University of Washington | United States | SCImago #45 · THE 25 · QS 81 | 7 |
| Vanderbilt University Medical Center | United States | SCImago #663 | 7 |
| University of Pittsburgh | United States | SCImago #212 · QS =281 | 7 |
| UT Southwestern Medical Center | United States | — | 7 |
| Columbia University | United States | SCImago #65 · THE 20 · QS =38 | 7 |
| National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute | United States | SCImago #345 | 7 |
| American Heart Association | United States | SCImago #2251 | 7 |

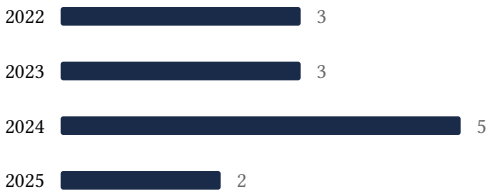
### Geographic distribution of citing authors

| Country | Citing papers |
|---|---|
| United States | 14 |
| Canada | 8 |
| United Kingdom | 6 |
| Australia | 5 |
| Brazil | 5 |
| Italy | 4 |
| Germany | 3 |
| Poland | 3 |
| Singapore | 3 |
| Belgium | 3 |
| Austria | 2 |
| Colombia | 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.




## 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 | Vitamin D Supplements and Prevention of Cancer and Cardiovascular Disease | 10 | 8 CFR 204.5(i)(3) — Outstanding Researcher |
| Contribution 2 | The relation between past exposure to fine particulate air pollution and prevalent anxiety: observational cohort study | 4 | 8 CFR 204.5(i)(3) — Outstanding Researcher |

| Contribution | Core paper | Indep. cites | Supports |
|---|---|---|---|
| Contribution 3 | Depression and risk of stroke morbidity and mortality: a meta-analysis and systematic review | 7 | 8 CFR 204.5(i)(3) — Outstanding Researcher |