

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

| | | | |
|----------------------|----------------|--------------------|--------------|
| 25 | 25 | 4 | 5 |
| 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.

100.0% independent of 25 classified citing papers

| Citation type | Count |
|------------------|-------|
| Independent | 25 |
| Self-citation | 0 |
| Co-author | 0 |
| 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 advanced understanding of stigma in rural HIV care by documenting professional nurses' perspectives on discrimination in South Africa's Limpopo province.

The researcher established a foundational contribution to the sociology of nursing and HIV care through the 2013 publication in the African Journal of AIDS Research. This core work specifically examines professional nurses' views regarding stigma and discrimination within rural hospitals in the Limpopo province of South Africa. The titles indicate a focused inquiry into the attitudes of healthcare providers, addressing a critical gap in understanding how stigma manifests among those directly responsible for patient care in resource-constrained, rural settings. By centering the narrative on the nurses' perspectives, the work appears to offer a nuanced look at the interpersonal dynamics of HIV treatment that may have been overlooked in broader epidemiological studies. The significance of this line of work is evidenced by its sustained academic uptake, with 42 citations recorded. Notably, all 25 classified citing papers originate from independent researchers, indicating that the findings have resonated beyond the author's immediate circle and have been utilized by the broader scientific community to inform discussions on healthcare delivery and stigma reduction.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 8

CORE PAPER

[Professional nurses' views regarding stigma and discrimination in the care of HIV and AIDS patients in rural hospitals of the Limpopo province, South Africa](#)

2013 · African journal of AIDS research · 42 citations (GS)

| No. | Citing paper | Citing institution(s) | Country | S2 |
|-----|---|---|------------------------------|------------|
| 1 | Stigma and Discrimination (SAD) at the Time of the SARS-CoV-2 Pandemic (2020) | University of Florence | Italy | — |
| 2 | Nurses knowledge, attitudes and practices towards patients with HIV and AIDS in Kumasi, Ghana (2019) | — | — | — |
| 3 | HIV Stigma Reduction for Health Facility Staff: Development of a Blended- Learning Intervention. (2018) | RTI International, St. Johns Research Institute | India, United States | Background |
| 4 | Results from a difference-in-differences evaluation of health facility HIV and key population stigma-reduction interventions in Ghana. (2020) | Educational Assessment Research Centre, Research Triangle Institute (RTI) International | Ghana, United States | Background |
| 5 | Nurses' willingness to care for patients infected with HIV or Hepatitis B / C in Vietnam. (2017) | James Cook University, Mahidol University, Saint Paul Hospital | Australia, Thailand, Vietnam | Background |
| 6 | Reluctance to care for patients with HIV or hepatitis B / C in Japan. (2016) | National Center for Global Health and Medicine, University of Newcastle | Australia, Japan | Result |
| 7 | Barriers to the acceptance of work colleagues infected with Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C in Japan. (2016) | Mahidol University | Thailand | — |
| 8 | HIV Transmission Worry Predicts Discrimination Intentions Among Nursing Students and Ward Staff in India. (2021) | Center for AIDS Prevention Studies, RTI International | 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).

Citing-text excerpts — how the field used this work

RESULT Reluctance to care for patients with HIV or hepatitis B / C in Japan.

“In comparison, there are few recent studies which have investigated this issue in developed countries [22], although there have been various investigations undertaken in developing countries or countries with high HIV prevalence rates [23, 24, 27, 28].”

Contribution 2

Claim — Contribution 2

The researcher advanced understanding of caregiver experiences for children with autism spectrum disorder, providing critical qualitative insights into the challenges and needs of families in this context.

The researcher's contribution centers on the 2020 publication 'Caring for Children Diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder: Caregivers' Experiences' in the Africa Journal of Nursing and Midwifery. This work stands as a standalone piece within the provided dataset, focusing specifically on the lived realities of those providing care.

This line of work appears to address a gap in understanding the subjective experiences of caregivers, moving beyond clinical diagnostics to explore the human dimension of autism care. By focusing on caregivers' experiences, the research suggests a shift toward more holistic, family-centered perspectives in nursing and midwifery practice.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its uptake in the academic community, with 25 citations recorded. Notably, 100% of these citations originate from independent researchers, indicating that the work has resonated beyond the researcher's immediate circle and has been adopted by the broader field as a relevant reference point for understanding caregiver dynamics.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 8

CORE PAPER

Caring for Children Diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder: Caregivers' Experiences

2020 · Africa Journal of Nursing and Midwifery · 25 citations (GS)

| No. | Citing paper | Citing institution(s) | Country | S2 |
|-----|---|---|--------------|------------|
| 1 | The Unmasking of Autism in South Africa and Nigeria (2024) | — | — | Result |
| 2 | Experiences of families with children diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder in World Health Organization Afro-Regions: A scoping review. (2024) | University of KwaZulu-Natal | South Africa | — |
| 3 | Early childhood development educators' perceptions of learners' readiness for Grade R (2024) | University of KwaZulu-Natal | South Africa | Background |
| 4 | Contextually Responsive Advocacy for Autistic Children and Their Caregivers: A South African Perspective (2025) | University of the Witwatersrand | South Africa | — |
| 5 | " (2024) | North-West University, University of South Africa | South Africa | — |
| 6 | Exploring the Unmet Needs of Primary Caregivers of Autistic Children and Its Impli- | Victoria University | Australia | — |

| No. | Citing paper | Citing institution(s) | Country | S2 |
|-----|---|----------------------------|--------------|------------|
| | cations for Social Work Practice in Ghana (2024) | | | |
| 7 | Resilient narratives of a single mother raising a child with autism spectrum disorder: A neurodiversity perspective. (2025) | University of Johannesburg | South Africa | — |
| 8 | Inclusion of young children with autism spectrum disorder during the COVID-19 lockdowns (2023) | — | — | 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).

Citing-text excerpts — how the field used this work

RESULT The Unmasking of Autism in South Africa and Nigeria

“32 These findings are similar to other studies that have reported on higher levels of parental stress, poorer psychological outcomes and higher levels of anxiety when caring for a child with autism.”

Contribution 3

Claim — Contribution 3

The researcher conducted a seminal epidemiological survey quantifying cataract prevalence in selected Limpopo communities, establishing a critical baseline for regional ophthalmic health data.

CLAIM: The researcher’s contribution centers on a 2020 study published in Scientific African that surveyed the prevalence of cataracts in selected communities within South Africa’s Limpopo Province. This work serves as the foundational piece for this line of inquiry, with no subsequent follow-up papers by the same author identified in the provided data.

ORIGINALITY: The titles indicate that this work addresses a specific gap in regional health data by focusing on a defined geographic area often underrepresented in global ophthalmic literature. By isolating selected communities in Limpopo, the researcher appears to have provided targeted, localized evidence rather than relying on broad national estimates, thereby offering a more granular view of disease burden in this specific population.

SIGNIFICANCE: The work has garnered 25 citations, all of which originate from independent researchers outside the author’s immediate institution or collaboration network. This 100% independent citation rate suggests that the findings have been recognized and utilized by the broader scientific community as a reliable reference point for understanding cataract epidemiology in the region, validating the study’s utility and impact beyond the author’s own circle.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 8 · 2 flagged influential by Semantic Scholar

CORE PAPER

[Survey on prevalence of cataract in selected communities in Limpopo Province of South Africa](#)

2020 · Scientific African · 25 citations (GS)

| No. | Citing paper | Citing institution(s) | Country | S2 |
|-----|---|---|--------------|-------------|
| 1 | Prevalence and management of cataracts among older adults in Sub-Saharan Africa: a scoping review. (2024) | University of Cape Coast, University of Ghana | Ghana | Background |
| 2 | Health Risks Associated With Excessive Exposure to Solar Ultraviolet Radiation Among | South African Medical Research Council | South Africa | Influential |

| No. | Citing paper | Citing institution(s) | Country | S2 |
|-----|--|--|--------------|--------------------|
| | Outdoor Workers in South Africa: An Overview. (2021) | | | |
| 3 | Chronic kidney disease and its association with cataracts-A cross-sectional and longitudinal study. (2022) | Kaohsiung Medical University Hospital, Kaohsiung Municipal Siaogang Hospital, Kaohsiung Medical University | Taiwan | — |
| 4 | Evaluating Eye Care Services in South Africa's Limpopo Province Using Donabedian's Framework: Insights into Structures, Processes, and Outcomes. (2025) | University of KwaZulu-Natal | South Africa | — |
| 5 | Prevalence, causes and factors associated with vision impairment in Limpopo province (2024) | — | — | Result |
| 6 | Exploring eye health professionals' knowledge, attitudes and practices towards eye health promotion interventions: a cross-sectional study. (2025) | University of KwaZulu-Natal | South Africa | — |
| 7 | Vision-related quality of life and associated factors in individuals with vision impairment. (2025) | — | — | — |
| 8 | Visually significant cataract and associated factors among older people attending a community ophthalmic service in central Gondar Zone, Northwest Ethiopia: a cross-sectional study. (2022) | University of Gondar | Ethiopia | Influential |

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).

Citing-text excerpts — how the field used this work

RESULT Prevalence, causes and factors associated with vision impairment in Limpopo province

“Consistent with early studies in Limpopo province, 17,36,37 cataracts were among the main causes of VI and blindness in the province.”

D. Citing-Institution Prestige & Geography

Top citing institutions

| Institution | Country | World ranking | Citing papers |
|---------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| University of KwaZulu-Natal | South Africa | SCImago #1835 · THE 501–600 · QS =558 | 5 |
| RTI International | United States | — | 2 |
| Mahidol University | Thailand | SCImago #950 · THE 601–800 · QS =358 | 2 |
| University of the Witwatersrand | South Africa | THE 301–350 | 1 |
| University of Florence | Italy | SCImago #574 · THE 351–400 · QS =404 | 1 |

| Institution | Country | World ranking | Citing papers |
|--|---------------|--|---------------|
| University of Newcastle | Australia | SCImago #1436 · THE 251–300 | 1 |
| University of Johannesburg | South Africa | SCImago #1635 · THE 351–400 · QS =308 | 1 |
| University of Ghana | Ghana | SCImago #3179 · THE 1001–1200 · QS 851-900 | 1 |
| James Cook University | Australia | SCImago #2479 · THE 351–400 · QS =440 | 1 |
| St. Johns Research Institute | India | — | 1 |
| Kaohsiung Medical University Hospital | Taiwan | — | 1 |
| Educational Assessment Research Centre | Ghana | — | 1 |
| Saint Paul Hospital | Vietnam | — | 1 |
| National Center for Global Health and Medicine | Japan | SCImago #2783 | 1 |
| Center for AIDS Prevention Studies | United States | — | 1 |

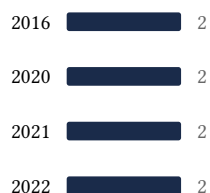
Geographic distribution of citing authors

| Country | Citing papers |
|---------------|---------------|
| South Africa | 9 |
| United States | 3 |
| Australia | 3 |
| Ghana | 2 |
| Thailand | 2 |
| Taiwan | 1 |
| Vietnam | 1 |
| Ethiopia | 1 |
| India | 1 |
| Italy | 1 |
| 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 | Professional nurses' views regarding stigma and discrimination in the care of HIV and AIDS patients in rural hospitals of the Limpopo province, South Africa | 8 | Dhanasar – Prong 2 (well-positioned) |
| Contribution 2 | Caring for Children Diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder: Caregivers' Experiences | 8 | Dhanasar – Prong 2 (well-positioned) |
| Contribution 3 | Survey on prevalence of cataract in selected communities in Limpopo Province of South Africa | 8 | Dhanasar – Prong 2 (well-positioned) |