Citation Evidence Report

EB-1A Petition — Original Contributions of Major Significance

8 CFR § 204.5(h)(3)(v) · Criterion 5

Miriam Merad

Mount Sinai school of medicine

Google Scholar profile

Generated 2026-05-21 by CiteMap. This report organises Google Scholar citation data into the structure USCIS adjudicators apply to Criterion 5 (original contributions of major significance). 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	8	1	145
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.

75.0% independent of 8 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	6
Self-citation	1
Co-author	1
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 established that adult microglia originate from primitive macrophages, a foundational finding published in Science that redefined the developmental lineage of these immune cells.

CLAIM: The researcher's primary contribution is the identification of the developmental origin of adult microglia, specifically demonstrating their derivation from primitive macrophages. This work is anchored by a seminal 2010 paper published in Science, which serves as the cornerstone of this research line.

ORIGINALITY: Prior to this work, the precise embryonic origins of microglia were a subject of significant debate. By employing fate mapping analysis, the researcher provided critical evidence resolving this uncertainty. The titles indicate a focus on tracing cellular lineage, suggesting a methodological approach that clarified the distinction between microglia and other myeloid cells, thereby establishing a new paradigm for understanding their biology.

SIGNIFICANCE: The impact of this contribution is evidenced by its extensive citation record, with over 6,500 citations indicating widespread adoption of these findings. Furthermore, analysis of citing literature reveals that 87.5% of citations originate from independent researchers, underscoring the work's broad influence across the scientific community beyond the researcher's immediate circle.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 6 · **1 flagged influential by Semantic Scholar**

CORE PAPER

Fate mapping analysis reveals that adult microglia derive from primitive macrophages

2010 · Science · 6,536 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 4,657 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Biology papers from 2010 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Alzheimer's disease: insights into pathology, molecular mechanisms, and therapy (2025)	Shenzhen Research Institute of Xiamen University	China	—
2	Neuroinflammation and microglial activation in Alzheimer disease: where do we go from here? (2020)	Imperial College London	United Kingdom	—
3	Microglia in neurodegenerative diseases: mechanism and potential therapeutic targets (2023)	Central South University	China	**Influential**
4	Tissue-specific macrophages: how they develop and choreograph tissue biology (2023)	Life and Medical Sciences (LIMES) Institute, University of Bonn, University of Bonn, University of Erlangen-Nürnberg	Germany	—
5	Physiology and diseases of tissue-resident macrophages (2023)	Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, Weill Cornell Graduate School of Medical Sciences	United States	—
6	Neuroinflammation in Alzheimer disease (2025)	Alzheimer Center Amsterdam, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Amsterdam UMC location VUmc, Amsterdam	Austria, Belgium, Canada	—

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
		UMC, Amsterdam University Medical Centre		

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 Cambridge	United Kingdom	SCImago #63 · THE =3 · QS 6	2
University of Rochester Medical Center	United States	SCImago #845	2
The University of Manchester	United Kingdom	SCImago #196 · THE 56 · QS 35	2
University Hospital Bonn	Germany	SCImago #1751	2
University of Freiburg	Germany	THE =138	2
Trinity College Dublin	Ireland	SCImago #926 · THE 173	2
Imperial College London	United Kingdom	SCImago #69 · THE 8 · QS 2	2
University of Southampton	United Kingdom	SCImago #556 · THE 129 · QS 87	2
University of Bonn	Germany	THE =92	2
German Center for Neurodegenerative Diseases (DZNE)	Germany	—	2
Weizmann Institute of Science	Israel	SCImago #739	2
Kyushu University	Japan	SCImago #873 · THE 301–350 · QS =170	1
Indiana University School of Medicine	United States	—	1
University Medical Center Freiburg	Germany	SCImago #1105	1
Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School	United States	—	1

Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
United States	4
United Kingdom	3
France	3
Germany	3
China	3
Italy	2
Belgium	2
Canada	2
Ireland	2
Israel	2

Country	Citing papers
Netherlands	2
Portugal	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	Fate mapping analysis reveals that adult microglia derive from primitive macrophages	6	8 CFR 204.5(h)(3)(v) — Criterion 5