

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

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 8 Citing papers mapped | 8 Citation edges | 1 Home papers mapped | 145 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 | Dhanasar – Prong 2 (well-positioned) |