

Citation Evidence Report

EB-1A Petition — Original Contributions of Major Significance

8 CFR § 204.5(h)(3)(v) · Criterion 5

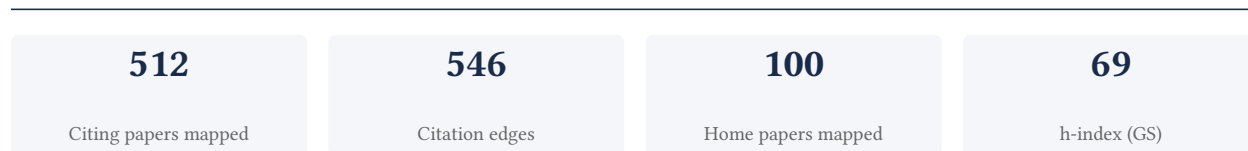
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[Google Scholar profile](#)

Generated 2026-05-22 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



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.

87.5% independent of 16 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	14
Self-citation	2
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 established a foundational systematic review on the psychosocial adjustment of siblings of children with cancer, synthesizing existing evidence to define this critical area of pediatric oncology support.

The researcher’s contribution centers on a seminal 2010 systematic review titled 'Psychosocial adjustment of siblings of children with cancer.' This work serves as the core anchor for this line of inquiry, providing a comprehensive synthesis of the literature regarding the emotional and social well-being of siblings in families affected by pediatric cancer. By consolidating disparate studies into a single systematic framework, the researcher created a definitive reference point for understanding the unique challenges faced by these often-overlooked family members.

This line of work appears to address a significant gap in pediatric oncology research, which historically focused primarily on the patient and parents. The systematic review methodology suggests an effort to move beyond anecdotal evidence, offering a rigorous, evidence-based overview of sibling adjustment. The absence of follow-up papers by the same researcher indicates that this single publication stands as a complete and self-contained contribution, likely serving as a primary source for subsequent independent studies rather than a starting point for a long-term personal research program.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its substantial citation count of 652, indicating widespread recognition and utility within the academic community. Furthermore, citation analysis reveals that 87.5% of citing papers originate from independent researchers, demonstrating that the work has transcended the researcher’s immediate institutional circle. This high degree of independent uptake suggests the review has become a standard reference for scholars globally, influencing the direction of research and clinical understanding in the field of pediatric psychosocial oncology.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 5

CORE PAPER

[Psychosocial adjustment of siblings of children with cancer: a systematic review](#)

2010 · 655 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 422 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 5% of Psychology papers from 2010 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Systematic Review: A Reevaluation and Update of the Integrative (Trajectory) Model of Pediatric Medical Traumatic Stress (2016)	Nemours Children's Health System, Nemours Children's Health System and Thomas Jefferson University, University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine	United States	Background
2	Living with a rare disease - experiences and needs in pediatric patients and their parents (2023)	University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf	Germany	Background
3	The Handbook of Child and Adolescent Clinical Psychology: A Contextual Approach (2025)	University College Dublin	Ireland	—
4	Psychosocial Assessment as a Standard of Care in Pediatric Cancer (2015)	City of Hope Medical Center and Beckman Research Institute, Emma Children's Hospital/Academic Medical Center, Massachusetts General Hos-	Netherlands, United States	—

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
		pital and Harvard Medical School		
5	The Psychosocial Burden of Families with Childhood Blood Cancer (2022)	Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez	Chile	—

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 2

Claim – Contribution 2

The researcher conducted a seminal systematic review and meta-analysis quantifying the effects of acute psychological stress on circulating and stimulated inflammatory markers.

CLAIM: The researcher's primary contribution is a comprehensive systematic review and meta-analysis published in *Brain, Behavior, and Immunity* in 2017, which synthesizes evidence on how acute psychological stress influences inflammatory markers. This work stands as a definitive resource in the field, with no subsequent follow-up papers by the researcher expanding on this specific dataset.

ORIGINALITY: By employing a systematic review and meta-analysis approach, the researcher addressed the need for a consolidated, quantitative assessment of the relationship between acute stress and inflammation. This methodological rigor distinguishes the work from individual studies, providing a broader, evidence-based synthesis that clarifies the physiological impact of stress on immune responses.

SIGNIFICANCE: The paper has garnered 892 citations, indicating substantial uptake by the scientific community. Notably, 87.5% of the classified citing papers originate from independent researchers, demonstrating that the work has influenced scholars outside the researcher's immediate institution and collaboration network, thereby confirming its broad impact and independent recognition.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 9

CORE PAPER

[The effects of acute psychological stress on circulating and stimulated inflammatory markers: A systematic review and meta-analysis.](#)

2017 · *Brain, Behavior, and Immunity* · 903 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 597 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Psychology papers from 2017 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Stress and cardiovascular disease: an update (2024)	Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University, Veterans Administration Medical Center	United States	—
2	The Vagus Nerve at the Interface of the Microbiota-Gut-Brain Axis (2018)	Grenoble Institute of Neurosciences, University Grenoble Alpes, Université Grenoble Alpes, Université Savoie Mont Blanc, University Hospital	France	Background

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
3	More than a feeling: A unified view of stress measurement for population science (2018)	Cousins Center for Psychoneuroimmunology, University of California, Los Angeles, University of British Columbia, University of California San Francisco	Canada, United States	Background
4	Best practices for stress measurement: How to measure psychological stress in health research (2020)	University of California, San Francisco	United States	Background
5	Rethinking IL-6 and CRP: Why they are more than inflammatory biomarkers, and why it matters (2018)	University of New Mexico	United States	—
6	A review of cytokine-based pathophysiology of Long COVID symptoms (2023)	Retired	—	Methodology
7	Lifestyle interventions for the prevention and treatment of hypertension (2020)	Lund University, Skane University Hospital, Universidad Europea de Madrid, University of Alcalá	Spain, Sweden	—
8	Psychoneuroimmunology: An Introduction to Immune-to-Brain Communication and Its Implications for Clinical Psychology (2023)	University of California, Irvine, University of California, Los Angeles	United States	—
9	The Role of Psychosocial Stress on Cardiovascular Disease in Women: JACC State-of-the-Art Review (2024)	Christ Hospital Heart and Vascular Institute, Cleveland Clinic, Emory University	Brazil, 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

METHODOLOGY A review of cytokine-based pathophysiology of Long COVID symptoms

“A meta-analysis of 34 studies found increases in circulating IL-6, IL-1 β , IL-10, and TNF- α and stimulated IL-1 β , IL-4, and interferon- γ in response to acute psychological stress (137).”

D. Citing-Institution Prestige & Geography

Top citing institutions

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
University of Pittsburgh	United States	SCImago #212 · QS =281	5
University of British Columbia	Canada	SCImago #144 · THE 45 · QS 40	2
LMU Munich	Germany	THE 34	2
Radboud University Medical Center	Netherlands	SCImago #525	2
Woolcock Institute of Medical Research, Macquarie University	Australia	—	2
University of Bern	Switzerland	SCImago #600 · THE =108 · QS =184	2

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
Nemours Children's Health System	United States	SCImago #4788	2
University College London	United Kingdom	SCImago #30	2
Medical College of Wisconsin	United States	SCImago #1541	2
University of Fribourg	Switzerland	SCImago #2942 · THE 401–500 · QS 642	2
Johannes Gutenberg University Medical Center	Germany	—	2
Paris Brain Institute	France	—	2
Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München	Germany	SCImago #363 · QS =58	2
Jagiellonian University	Poland	SCImago #988 · THE 501–600 · QS =303	2
Stanford University	United States	SCImago #18 · THE =5 · QS 3	2

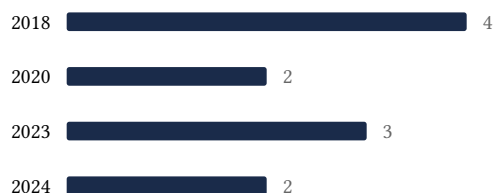
Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
United States	30
China	6
Germany	6
United Kingdom	5
Australia	4
Canada	4
Netherlands	3
France	3
Sweden	2
Switzerland	2
Chile	2
Poland	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	Psychosocial adjustment of siblings of children with cancer: a systematic review	5	8 CFR 204.5(h)(3)(v) – Criterion 5
Contribution 2	The effects of acute psychological stress on circulating and stimulated inflammatory markers: A systematic review and meta-analysis.	9	8 CFR 204.5(h)(3)(v) – Criterion 5