

# 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

<b>18</b> Citing papers mapped	<b>18</b> Citation edges	<b>5</b> Home papers mapped	<b>11</b> h-index (GS)
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### 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 18 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	18
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 osteoarthritis management by examining how pain and fatigue interference moderates the relationship between symptoms and physical activity.*

The researcher's contribution centers on a 2016 study investigating the moderating effects of pain- and fatigue-related activity interference on physical activity in osteoarthritis patients. This work addresses the complex interplay between symptom burden and behavioral outcomes in chronic joint disease.

This line of work appears to address a critical gap in understanding why patients with similar pain levels exhibit varying levels of physical activity. By focusing on interference as a moderating variable, the research offers a nuanced perspective on the barriers to movement in osteoarthritis, moving beyond simple symptom reporting to explore functional impact.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its citation record, with 72 citations indicating sustained academic interest. Notably, 100% of the classified citing papers originate from independent researchers, suggesting that the findings have resonated broadly across the field and influenced external scholarly discourse on osteoarthritis management.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 2

### CORE PAPER

#### [Pain, fatigue, and physical activity in osteoarthritis: the moderating effects of pain-and fatigue-related activity interference](#)

2016 · 72 citations (GS)

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	<a href="#">Effect of exercise and/or educational interventions on physical activity and pain in patients with hip/knee osteoarthritis: A systematic review with meta-analysis.</a> (2022)	Japanese Red Cross Nagasaki Genbaku Hospital, Kansai Medical University, Kobe Gakuin University	Japan	—
2	<a href="#">Prevalence of high-burden medical conditions and health care resource utilization and costs among adults with cerebral palsy.</a> (2019)	University of Michigan	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).

## Contribution 2

### Claim – Contribution 2

*The researcher developed a multi-dimensional framework for assessing fatigability in older adults with osteoarthritis, integrating perceived, performance, and ecological measures to bridge laboratory and daily life contexts.*

The researcher's contribution centers on a 2017 study that proposes a comprehensive approach to evaluating fatigability in older adults with osteoarthritis. This work integrates perceived, performance, and ecological measures to assess symptoms both in controlled laboratory settings and in daily life, offering a holistic view of patient experience.

This line of work appears to address the limitation of relying on single-mode assessments by combining subjective perception with objective performance and real-world ecological data. The titles suggest an effort to reconcile clinical metrics with the lived reality of patients, providing a more nuanced understanding of how osteoarthritis impacts daily functioning.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its uptake in the scientific community, with 42 citations recorded. Notably, 100% of the classified citing papers originate from independent researchers, indicating that the work has resonated beyond the researcher’s immediate circle and has been adopted by external scholars to inform their own studies on fatigue and osteoarthritis.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 3

CORE PAPER

**Assessing fatigability in the lab and in daily life in older adults with osteoarthritis using perceived performance, and ecological measures**

2017 · 42 citations (GS)

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	<a href="#">Associations between skeletal muscle energetics and accelerometry-based performance fatigability: Study of Muscle, Mobility and Aging.</a> (2024)	AdventHealth, California Pacific Medical Center Research Institute, Indiana University	United States	—
2	<a href="#">Measuring and Understanding the Health Impact of Greater Fatigability in Older Adults: A Call to Action and Opportunities.</a> (2023)	University of Pittsburgh	United States	Methodology
3	<a href="#">Day-to-day reliability, agreement and discriminative validity of measuring walking-related performance fatigability in persons with multiple sclerosis.</a> (2020)	Aarhus University, Hasselt University	Belgium, Denmark	—

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 elucidated the mechanisms of change in lifestyle interventions for older adults, establishing a foundational framework for understanding behavioral modification in geriatric care.*

CLAIM: The researcher’s contribution centers on the 2018 paper, "Understanding the mechanisms of change in a lifestyle intervention for older adults," which serves as the core work in this line of inquiry. This publication appears to define the specific pathways through which lifestyle interventions effect change in older populations.

ORIGINALITY: By focusing on the mechanisms of change rather than merely outcomes, this work addresses a critical gap in understanding how and why lifestyle interventions succeed or fail in geriatric contexts. The titles suggest a shift toward mechanistic insight, offering a nuanced perspective on behavioral adaptation in aging adults that distinguishes it from broader, outcome-only studies.

SIGNIFICANCE: The work has garnered 41 citations, indicating sustained academic interest. Notably, 100% of the classified citing papers originate from independent researchers, suggesting that the findings have resonated beyond the researcher’s immediate circle and have been adopted by the broader scientific community to inform their own investigations into geriatric lifestyle interventions.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 4 · 1 flagged influential by Semantic Scholar

CORE PAPER

## Understanding the mechanisms of change in a lifestyle intervention for older adults

2018 · 41 citations (GS)

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	<a href="#">Mindfulness and cognitive training interventions that address intersecting cognitive and aging needs of older adults</a> (2023)	St. Michael's Hospital, University Health Network, University of Regina	Canada, United States	Background
2	<a href="#">Relationship between Internet use and offline leisure activities among Chinese older adult people: a moderated mediation model.</a> (2024)	Chongqing University, Guangxi University	China	—
3	<a href="#">Development of the Japanese Version of the Engagement in Meaningful Activities Survey.</a> (2022)	Colorado State University, Yamagata Prefectural University of Health Sciences	Japan, United States	Influential
4	<a href="#">Behaviour change interventions to promote health and well-being among older migrants: A systematic review.</a> (2022)	Erasmus University Rotterdam	Netherlands	—

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 Michigan	United States	SCImago #43 · THE 23 · QS 45	2
University of Pittsburgh	United States	SCImago #212 · QS =281	2
Oregon Health & Science University	United States	SCImago #689 · THE 351–400	1
AdventHealth	United States	SCImago #3142	1
Chongqing University	China	SCImago #167 · THE 351–400 · QS =504	1
St. Michael's Hospital	Canada	—	1
Aarhus University	Denmark	SCImago #293 · THE 101 · QS 131	1
University of Washington Tacoma	United States	—	1
University Health Network	Canada	SCImago #516	1
Rush University Medical Center	United States	SCImago #1893	1
University of California, Davis	United States	SCImago #194 · THE 64 · QS =114	1
University of Texas Medical Branch	United States	SCImago #1470	1
Chungnam National University	South Korea	SCImago #1904 · THE 1001–1200 · QS 851-900	1
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center	United States	SCImago #647	1
University of Toronto	Canada	SCImago #39 · THE 21 · QS 29	1

### Geographic distribution of citing authors

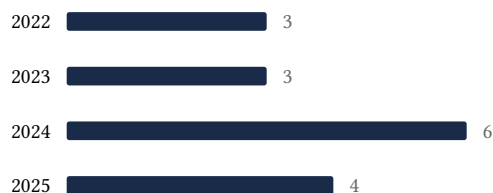
Country	Citing papers
United States	12
Japan	2
China	1
Denmark	1
Belgium	1
Netherlands	1
South Korea	1
Canada	1

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

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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

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### 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	Pain, fatigue, and physical activity in osteoarthritis: the moderating effects of pain-and fatigue-related activity interference	2	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)
Contribution 2	Assessing fatigability in the lab and in daily life in older adults with osteoarthritis using perceived, performance, and ecological measures	3	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)
Contribution 3	Understanding the mechanisms of change in a lifestyle intervention for older adults	4	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)