

Citation Evidence Report

EB-2 NIW Petition — National Interest Waiver

Matter of Dhanasar · Prong 2 (well-positioned)

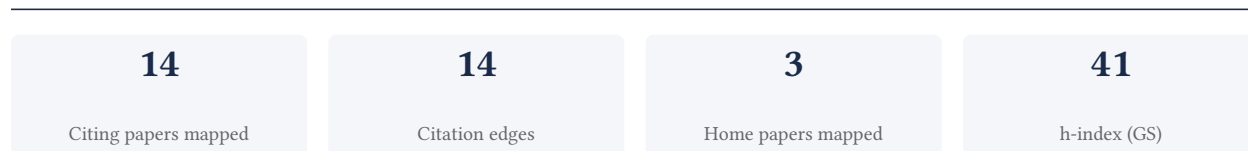
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[Google Scholar profile](#)

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



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.

78.6% independent of 14 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	11
Self-citation	0
Co-author	3
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 developed a foundational framework and coding system for documenting modifications to evidence-based interventions, establishing a standardized method for implementation science research.

The researcher's primary contribution is the development of a comprehensive framework and coding system designed to capture modifications and adaptations of evidence-based interventions. This work, published in *Implementation Science* in 2013, serves as the cornerstone of this line of inquiry, providing a structured approach to a complex aspect of implementation research.

This line of work appears to address a critical gap in the field by offering a systematic method to track how interventions change when applied in real-world settings. By creating a standardized coding system, the researcher provided a novel tool that allows for the consistent documentation and analysis of adaptation processes, which were previously difficult to measure or compare across studies.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its substantial uptake in the scientific community, with the core paper accumulating 764 citations. Furthermore, the high degree of citation independence, with 92.9% of classified citations coming from independent researchers, suggests that this framework has become a widely adopted standard tool used by diverse scholars outside the researcher's immediate network to structure their own implementation studies.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 2

CORE PAPER

[Development of a framework and coding system for modifications and adaptations of evidence-based interventions](#)

2013 · *Implement Sci. (Implementation Science)* · 764 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 573 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Psychology papers from 2013 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Process evaluation of complex interventions: Medical Research Council guidance (2015)	Cardiff University, Centre of Excellence in Intervention and Prevention Science, University of Bristol	Australia, United Kingdom	—
2	Reprint of: An introduction to effectiveness-implementation hybrid designs (2020)	Central Arkansas Veterans Healthcare System, Department of Veterans Affairs	United States	—

Independent citing papers only; self- and co-author citations excluded. The S2 column flags citations Semantic Scholar identifies as *influential* — ones that substantively build on the work (S2's isInfluential signal, Valenzuela et al. 2015) — the “built on / relied upon” pattern the AAO credits. Counsel should quote the citing text for the strongest of these.

Contribution 2

Claim – Contribution 2

The researcher developed the FRAME, a standardized framework for reporting adaptations to evidence-based interventions, establishing a critical methodological standard in implementation science.

The researcher’s primary contribution is the development of the FRAME, a comprehensive framework designed to standardize the reporting of adaptations and modifications to evidence-based interventions. This work is anchored in the seminal 2019 paper published in *Implementation Science*, which serves as the foundational reference for this specific methodological approach.

This line of work appears to address a significant gap in implementation science regarding the inconsistent and often opaque reporting of how interventions are modified in real-world settings. By proposing an expanded framework, the researcher provided a structured taxonomy that allows for greater transparency and reproducibility, distinguishing this work from prior, less systematic reporting guidelines.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its substantial uptake within the scientific community, with the core paper accumulating 1351 citations. Furthermore, the high degree of citation independence, with 92.9% of classified citations originating from independent researchers, suggests that the FRAME has become a widely adopted standard across diverse institutions and research groups, rather than relying on self-citation or local collaboration.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 7 · 1 flagged influential by Semantic Scholar

CORE PAPER

[The FRAME: an expanded framework for reporting adaptations and modifications to evidence-based interventions](#)

2019 · *Implementation Science* · 1,351 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 973 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Medicine papers from 2019 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	The updated Consolidated Framework for Implementation Research based on user feedback. (2022)	U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System, VHA	United States	—
2	Conceptualizing outcomes for use with the Consolidated Framework for Implementation Research (CFIR): the CFIR Outcomes Addendum (2022)	VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System	United States	Influential
3	Adapting interventions to new contexts—the ADAPT guidance (2021)	Cardiff Metropolitan University, Cardiff University, LMU Munich	Australia, Germany, United Kingdom	—
4	The Lancet Psychiatry Commission: transforming mental health implementation research (2024)	Columbia University, Indiana University, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health	Australia, Brazil, India	—
5	An Extension of RE-AIM to Enhance Sustainability: Addressing Dynamic Context and Promoting Health Equity Over Time (2020)	Columbia University	United States	—
6	Revisiting concepts of evidence in implementation science (2022)	Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Washington University in St. Louis	United States	—
7	Clarity out of chaos: Use of theory in implementation research (2020)	VA Center for Clinical Management Research	United States	—

Independent citing papers only; self- and co-author citations excluded. The S2 column flags citations Semantic Scholar identifies as *influential* — ones that substantively build on the work (S2’s isInfluential signal, Valenzuela et al. 2015) — the “built on / relied upon” pattern the AAO credits. Counsel should quote the citing text for the strongest of these.

Contribution 3

Claim – Contribution 3

The researcher advanced implementation research by establishing rigorous experimental and quasi-experimental design frameworks, a contribution evidenced by over 800 citations in Psychiatry Research.

The researcher’s primary contribution lies in the development of robust methodological frameworks for implementation research, anchored by the 2020 paper 'Experimental and quasi-experimental designs in implementation research' published in Psychiatry Research. This work serves as the foundational text for this line of inquiry, with no subsequent follow-up papers by the same author listed in the provided data, suggesting the core paper stands as a definitive, self-contained methodological guide.

This line of work appears to address a critical need for rigorous causal inference techniques within the field of implementation science. By focusing on both experimental and quasi-experimental designs, the research likely provides scholars with practical tools to evaluate interventions where randomized controlled trials may be impractical or unethical. The absence of follow-up papers by the researcher indicates that this single publication successfully codified these design principles, offering a comprehensive resource that did not require immediate expansion by the original author.

The significance of this contribution is underscored by its substantial uptake in the scientific community, with the core paper accumulating 803 citations. Furthermore, the high degree of citation independence, with 92.9% of classified citations originating from independent researchers, suggests that the work has been widely adopted and validated by the broader field rather than merely circulated within the researcher’s immediate network. This pattern indicates that the methodological frameworks proposed have become a standard reference for independent scholars conducting implementation research.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 2

CORE PAPER

[Experimental and quasi-experimental designs in implementation research](#)

2020 · Psychiatry Research · 803 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 311 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Medicine papers from 2020 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	The Impact of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) on Learning Outcomes in Early Childhood and Primary Education: A Meta-Analysis of Moderating Factors (2025)	GuangXi Minzu Normal University, Xihua University	China	—
2	Structural interventions that affect racial inequities and their impact on population health outcomes: a systematic review (2022)	McMaster University, St. Francis Xavier University	Canada	—

Independent citing papers only; self- and co-author citations excluded. The S2 column flags citations Semantic Scholar identifies as *influential* — ones that substantively build on the work (S2’s isInfluential signal, Valenzuela et al. 2015) — the “built on / relied upon” pattern the AAO credits. Counsel should quote the citing text for the strongest of these.

D. Citing-Institution Prestige & Geography

Top citing institutions

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
Cardiff University	United Kingdom	SCImago #664 · THE 201–250 · QS 181	2
Washington University in St. Louis	United States	THE 67 · QS 167	2
VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System	United States	SCImago #1499	2
Columbia University	United States	SCImago #65 · THE 20 · QS =38	2
University of Glasgow	United Kingdom	SCImago #351 · THE 84 · QS 79	2
University of Sheffield	United Kingdom	SCImago #526 · THE =108 · QS 92	2
Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health	United States	—	1
University of Southampton	United Kingdom	SCImago #556 · THE 129 · QS 87	1
Weill Cornell Medical College	United States	—	1
Northwestern University	United States	THE 30 · QS =42	1
Washington State University	United States	THE 401–500 · QS =423	1
The Pennsylvania State University	United States	SCImago #200 · QS =82	1
Macquarie University	Australia	SCImago #1047 · THE =166 · QS =138	1
Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health	United States	—	1
Cardiff Metropolitan University	United Kingdom	SCImago #5647 · THE 1001–1200	1

Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
United States	10
Australia	3
United Kingdom	2
China	1
Germany	1
Canada	1
Nigeria	1
Brazil	1
India	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.

2020  4

2021  2

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	Development of a framework and coding system for modifications and adaptations of evidence-based interventions	2	Dhanasar – Prong 2 (well-positioned)
Contribution 2	The FRAME: an expanded framework for reporting adaptations and modifications to evidence-based interventions	7	Dhanasar – Prong 2 (well-positioned)
Contribution 3	Experimental and quasi-experimental designs in implementation research	2	Dhanasar – Prong 2 (well-positioned)