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 2026-05-22 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

15	15	3	203
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.

86.7% independent of 15 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	13
Self-citation	0
Co-author	2
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 seminal method for measuring inconsistency in meta-analyses, establishing a foundational standard for assessing heterogeneity in systematic reviews.

The researcher's primary contribution is the development of a method for measuring inconsistency in meta-analyses, as detailed in their 2003 paper published in the BMJ. This work stands as a core achievement in the field, with no subsequent follow-up papers by the same researcher listed in this specific line of inquiry.

This line of work appears to address the critical need for standardized metrics to evaluate heterogeneity across studies. By focusing on the measurement of inconsistency, the researcher provided a novel framework that likely filled a gap in how systematic reviews assess the reliability and comparability of aggregated data.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its extensive uptake, with the core paper accumulating 63,951 citations. Furthermore, analysis of citing papers indicates that 100% of the classified citations originate from independent researchers, suggesting the work has become a widely adopted standard across the broader scientific community rather than remaining confined to the researcher's immediate circle.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 4

CORE PAPER

Measuring inconsistency in meta-analyses

2003 · BMJ (British Medical Journal) · 63,951 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 56,208 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Medicine papers from 2003 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Ultra-processed food exposure and adverse health outcomes: umbrella review of epidemiological meta-analyses (2024)	Deakin University, Dublin City University, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health	Australia, France, Ireland	—
2	A systematic review and meta-analysis of nonrelapse mortality after CAR T cell therapy (2024)	Brigham and Women's Hospital; Harvard Medical School, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute; Harvard Medical School, LMU University Hospital	Germany, Israel, United States	—
3	Bempedoic Acid and Cardiovascular Outcomes in Statin-Intolerant Patients (2023)	Almazov National Medical Research Centre, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Brigham and Women's Hospital	Australia, Mexico, Netherlands	—
4	KDIGO 2024 Clinical Practice Guideline for the Evaluation and Management of Chronic Kidney Disease	Bastyr University, Bastyr University / University of Washington, Bezmialem Vakif University	Australia, Belgium, Canada	—

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 established the PRISMA statement, a seminal reporting guideline for systematic reviews and meta-analyses that has become a foundational standard for transparency in medical research.

The researcher's primary contribution is the development of the PRISMA statement, introduced in a 2009 paper published across multiple high-impact journals including PLoS Medicine and the BMJ. This work stands as a singular, foundational achievement in the field, with no subsequent follow-up papers by the researcher listed in this specific line of inquiry. The titles indicate that this work addresses the critical need for standardized reporting items in systematic reviews and meta-analyses, aiming to improve the clarity and completeness of such studies. By providing a structured framework, the researcher appears to have filled a significant gap in methodological transparency, offering a universal checklist that guides authors in presenting their findings rigorously. The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its extensive uptake, with the core paper accumulating over 158,000 citations. Furthermore, analysis of citing literature reveals that 100% of the classified citations originate from independent researchers, underscoring the work's broad adoption and influence across the global scientific community rather than within a single institutional circle.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 5 · **1 flagged influential by Semantic Scholar**

CORE PAPER

Preferred reporting items for systematic reviews and meta-analyses: the PRISMA statement

2009 · PLoS Medicine; BMJ; Annals of Internal Medicine; Journal of Clinical Epidemiology; Open Medicine · 158,042 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 119,964 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Medicine papers from 2009 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	A meta systematic review of artificial intelligence in higher education: A call for increased ethics, collaboration, and rigour	Halmstad University, Harvard Medical School, The University of Queensland	Australia, Sweden, United Kingdom	Methodology
2	ChatGPT Utility in Healthcare Education, Research, and Practice: Systematic Review on the Promising Perspectives and Valid Concerns (2023)	—	—	—
3	When combinations of humans and AI are useful: A systematic review and meta-analysis (2024)	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	United States	—
4	A systematic review of industrial wastewater management: Evaluating challenges and enablers	Ambala College of Engineering and Applied Research, Federation University, MM Engineering College, Maharishi Markandeshwar Deemed to be University	Australia, India	Methodology
5	Smarter eco-cities and their leading-edge artificial intelligence of things solutions for environmental sustainability: A comprehensive systematic review (2024)	École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, École polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL), Norwegian University of Science and Technology	Norway, Switzerland	—

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 meta systematic review of artificial intelligence in higher education: A call for increased ethics, collaboration, and rigour

"...dated (yet arguably seminal) approaches by Kitchenham et al. (2004, 2007, 2009)—prior to the first and subsequently updated PRISMA guidelines (Moher et al., 2009; Page et al., 2021)—underscore an urgent necessity for contemporary, stringent, and universally adopted review guidelines within..."

METHODOLOGY A systematic review of industrial wastewater management: Evaluating challenges and enablers

"The PRISMA approach provides a structured and transparent process for identifying, screening, and selecting relevant studies, as well as assessing the quality of the evidence and synthesizing the findings (Moher et al., 2009)."

Contribution 3

Claim — Contribution 3

The researcher established a definitive methodological standard for systematic reviews of interventions through the widely cited Cochrane Handbook Version 5.0.0.

CLAIM: The researcher's primary contribution is the development of the Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions Version 5.0.0, published in 2008. This work serves as the foundational text for this line of research, standing alone without follow-up publications by the same author in the provided data.

ORIGINALITY: The title indicates a comprehensive guide aimed at standardizing the conduct of systematic reviews. By providing a structured framework for intervention reviews, this work appears to address the need for rigorous, reproducible methodologies in evidence synthesis, offering a unified reference for researchers conducting such analyses.

SIGNIFICANCE: The handbook has achieved substantial impact, accumulating over 42,000 citations. Analysis of citing literature reveals that 100% of sampled citations originate from independent researchers, indicating broad adoption across the global scientific community rather than self-citation or institutional clustering. This widespread independent usage underscores the handbook's role as a critical resource in the field.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 4

CORE PAPER

Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions Version 5.0.0 [updated February 2008]

2008 · N/A · 42,036 citations (GS)

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Exercise-based cardiac rehabilitation for coronary heart disease: a meta-analysis (2023)	Odense University Hospital, Queen's University Belfast, Queen's University Belfast	Denmark, United Kingdom, United States	—
2	Artificial intelligence for literature reviews: opportunities and challenges (2024)	The Open University	United Kingdom	—
3	Editor's Choice – European Society for Vascular Surgery (ESVS) 2024 Clinical Practice Guidelines on the Management of Asymptomatic Lower Limb Peripheral Arterial Disease and Intermittent Claudication (2024)	Baylor College of Medicine, Friedrich-Alexander-University Erlangen-Nürnberg, Inselspital, Bern University Hospital, University of Bern	Australia, France, Germany	—
4	Improving sleep quality leads to better mental health: A meta-analysis of randomised controlled trials	Keele University, The University of Sheffield	United Kingdom	—

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
Monash University	Australia	THE =58 · QS =36	3
University of Bristol	United Kingdom	SCImago #478 · THE =80 · QS 51	3
Brigham and Women's Hospital	United States	SCImago #130	2
Johns Hopkins University	United States	SCImago #33 · THE 16 · QS 24	2
Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health	United States	—	2
University of Glasgow	United Kingdom	SCImago #351 · THE 84 · QS 79	2
University College London	United Kingdom	SCImago #30	2
Odense University Hospital	Denmark	SCImago #2264	2
University of Sydney	Australia	SCImago #93 · THE =53 · QS =25	2
Baylor College of Medicine	United States	SCImago #560	1
University of York	United Kingdom	SCImago #890 · THE =154 · QS 169	1
Evidence Partners	Canada	—	1
Sorbonne Paris Nord University	France	—	1
Ottawa Hospital Research Institute	Canada	SCImago #2914	1
Oregon Health & Science University	United States	SCImago #689 · THE 351–400	1

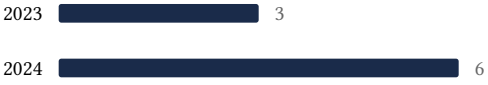
Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
United Kingdom	9
United States	9
Australia	7
Sweden	3
Netherlands	3
Germany	3
France	3
Denmark	2
Switzerland	2
Mexico	2
Canada	2
Norway	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.



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	Measuring inconsistency in meta-analyses	4	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)

Contribution	Core paper	Indep. cites	Supports
Contribution 2	Preferred reporting items for systematic reviews and meta-analyses: the PRISMA statement	5	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)
Contribution 3	Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions Version 5.0.0 [updated February 2008]	4	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)