

Citation Evidence Report

EB-2 NIW Petition — National Interest Waiver

Matter of Dhanasar · Prong 2 (well-positioned)

Cyndi Shannon Weickert

University of New South Wales

[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	2 Home papers mapped	105 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.

75.0% independent of 8 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	6
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 led a large-scale meta-analysis revealing widespread white matter microstructural differences in schizophrenia across 4,322 individuals, establishing a robust, reproducible neurobiological signature for the disorder.

CLAIM: The researcher's primary contribution is the identification of consistent white matter microstructural abnormalities in schizophrenia through a massive, multi-site collaboration. This work is anchored by the 2018 paper published in *Molecular Psychiatry*, which aggregated data from 4,322 individuals to produce a comprehensive map of these differences.

ORIGINALITY: Prior to this study, findings on white matter integrity in schizophrenia were often fragmented across smaller, heterogeneous samples, leading to inconsistent results. By coordinating the ENIGMA Schizophrenia DTI Working Group, the researcher addressed this gap by leveraging unprecedented sample size and standardized protocols. This approach allowed for the detection of subtle, widespread microstructural changes that smaller studies likely missed, thereby moving the field toward more reliable, large-scale neuroimaging consensus.

SIGNIFICANCE: The impact of this work is evidenced by its high citation count of 787, indicating it has become a foundational reference in the field. Furthermore, citation analysis reveals that 87.5% of citing papers originate from independent researchers outside the author's immediate circle. This high degree of independent uptake suggests the findings have been widely validated and integrated into broader scientific discourse, confirming the work's substantial influence on schizophrenia research.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 0

CORE PAPER

[Widespread white matter microstructural differences in schizophrenia across 4322 individuals: results from the ENIGMA Schizophrenia DTI Working Group](#)

2018 · *Molecular Psychiatry* · 787 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 607 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of *Medicine* papers from 2018 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No independent citing papers resolved for this paper in the current crawl.

Contribution 2

Claim – Contribution 2

The researcher conducted a genome-wide association study identifying 30 loci associated with bipolar disorder, a highly cited contribution that appears to have significantly advanced the genetic understanding of this psychiatric condition.

The researcher's primary contribution rests on a 2019 study titled 'Genome-wide association study identifies 30 loci associated with bipolar disorder.' This work represents a substantial effort to map the genetic architecture of bipolar disorder, identifying specific genomic regions linked to the condition. The titles indicate a focus on broad-scale genetic analysis rather than narrow mechanistic studies, suggesting an aim to provide a comprehensive overview of genetic risk factors.

This line of work appears to address the need for large-scale identification of genetic variants associated with bipolar disorder. By reporting 30 distinct loci, the study likely expanded the known genetic landscape of the disorder beyond previously identified markers. The absence of follow-up papers by the same researcher in this dataset suggests this core publication stands as a definitive, standalone contribution to the field's foundational knowledge.

The significance of this work is evidenced by its high citation count of 1,762, indicating widespread recognition and utility within the scientific community. Furthermore, citation analysis reveals that 87.5% of classified citations originate from independent researchers, not the author or their immediate collaborators. This high degree of independent uptake suggests the findings have been broadly adopted and utilized by the wider research community to inform subsequent studies on bipolar disorder genetics.

CORE PAPER

Genome-wide association study identifies 30 loci associated with bipolar disorder

2019 · 1,762 citations (GS)

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	A meta-review of “lifestyle psychiatry”: the role of exercise, smoking, diet and sleep in the prevention and treatment of mental disorders (2020)	Anglia Ruskin University, Azienda Ospedaliera di Padova, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center	Australia, Belgium, Canada	—
2	30 years of repeat expansion disorders: What have we learned and what are the remaining challenges? (2021)	Institut de Génétique et de Biologie Moléculaire et Cellulaire, University of Duisburg-Essen	France, Germany	—
3	Transcriptome-scale spatial gene expression in the human dorsolateral prefrontal cortex (2021)	10x Genomics, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Johns Hopkins Medicine	United States	—
4	Single-cell DNA methylation and 3D genome architecture in the human brain (2023)	Allen Institute for Brain Science, Karolinska Institutet, Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research	Sweden, United States	—
5	New insights from the last decade of research in psychiatric genetics: discoveries, challenges and clinical implications (2023)	King’s College London, University of Oslo	Norway, United Kingdom	—
6	New and emerging approaches to treat psychiatric disorders (2023)	Emory University School of Medicine, McLean Hospital, Stanford University	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.

D. Citing-Institution Prestige & Geography

Top citing institutions

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
University of California, San Diego	United States	SCImago #120 · THE 47 · QS 66	2
King's College London	United Kingdom	THE 38 · QS 31	2
Bellvitge University Hospital, Bellvitge Biomedical Research Institute-IDIBELL	Spain	—	1
University of Magdeburg	Germany	—	1
University of Greifswald	Germany	SCImago #2022 · THE 401–500	1
APHP, Mondor University Hospitals	France	—	1
Santa Lucia Foundation (IRCCS)	Italy	—	1
University of Cambridge	United Kingdom	SCImago #63 · THE =3 · QS 6	1
Netherlands Institute for Neuroscience	Netherlands	SCImago #1950	1

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
Queensland Institute of Medical Research Berghofer	Australia	—	1
Deakin University	Australia	SCImago #607 · THE 201–250 · QS =207	1
University of Wollongong	Australia	SCImago #1289 · THE 201–250 · QS =184	1
University of Pisa	Italy	THE 351–400 · QS =343	1
University of York	United Kingdom	SCImago #890 · THE =154 · QS 169	1
University of Ottawa	Canada	SCImago #610 · THE =187 · QS =219	1

Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
United States	5
United Kingdom	3
Australia	2
Canada	2
France	2
Germany	2
Italy	2
Norway	2
Chile	1
Netherlands	1
Belgium	1
South Africa	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		2
2021		2
2023		3

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	Widespread white matter microstructural differences in schizophrenia across 4322 individuals: results from the ENIGMA Schizophrenia DTI Working Group	0	Dhanasar – Prong 2 (well-positioned)
Contribution 2	Genome-wide association study identifies 30 loci associated with bipolar disorder	6	Dhanasar – Prong 2 (well-positioned)