

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

10 Citing papers mapped	10 Citation edges	1 Home papers mapped	167 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.

80.0% independent of 10 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	8
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 established a foundational global benchmark for mental disorder prevalence and age-of-onset through the WHO World Mental Health Survey Initiative.

The researcher's primary contribution rests on the 2007 publication in World Psychiatry regarding lifetime prevalence and age-of-onset distributions of mental disorders within the WHO World Mental Health Survey Initiative. This work serves as the cornerstone of the cited line of research, with no subsequent follow-up papers by the same author listed in this specific cluster.

This line of work appears to address the critical need for standardized, cross-national data on mental health epidemiology. By focusing on lifetime prevalence and age-of-onset, the research likely provided a novel, comprehensive framework for understanding the global burden of mental disorders, filling a significant gap in comparative psychiatric data.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its substantial citation count of 7,270, indicating widespread adoption in the field. Furthermore, the high degree of citation independence, with 90% of classified citations originating from independent researchers, suggests that the work has had a broad, objective impact on the global scientific community beyond the researcher's immediate network.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 8

CORE PAPER

[Lifetime prevalence and age-of-onset distributions of mental disorders in the World Health Organization's World Mental Health Survey Initiative](#)

2007 · World Psychiatry · 7,270 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 2,325 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Psychology papers from 2007 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Global prevalence of depression and elevated depressive symptoms among adolescents: A systematic review and meta-analysis (2022)	National University Hospital, National University of Singapore	Singapore	—
2	Age at onset of mental disorders worldwide: large-scale meta-analysis of 192 epidemiological studies (2022)	IDIBAPS, King's College London, King's College London	Canada, Italy, South Korea	—
3	Rethinking minority stress: A social safety perspective on the health effects of stigma in sexually-diverse and gender-diverse populations (2022)	University of Utah	United States	—
4	The social determinants of mental health and disorder: evidence, prevention and recommendations. (2024)	City College, City University of New York, University College London, University of Birmingham	Canada, United Kingdom, United States	—
5	World mental health report: Transforming mental health for all (2022)	World Health Organization	Switzerland	—
6	Prevalence and socio-demographic correlates of psychological health problems in Chinese adolescents during the outbreak of COVID-19 (2020)	Beijing HuiLongGuan Hospital, Peking University HuiLongGuan Clinical Medical School, Binhai Eco-City School-Tianjin Nankai High School, Hebei	China	—

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
		Tangshan Foreign Language School		
7	The Lancet Commission on global mental health and sustainable development (2018)	Al-Quds University, CBM International, Harvard Medical School	Australia, China, Denmark	—
8	The effect of multiple adverse childhood experiences on health: a systematic review and meta-analysis (2017)	Bangor University, Liverpool John Moores University, Public Health Wales	Australia, Denmark, 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).

D. Citing-Institution Prestige & Geography

Top citing institutions

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
Harvard Medical School	United States	SCImago #12	3
World Health Organization	Switzerland	SCImago #172	2
University of Cambridge	United Kingdom	SCImago #63 · THE =3 · QS 6	2
University College London	United Kingdom	SCImago #30	2
King's College London	United Kingdom	THE 38 · QS 31	2
University of Ottawa	Canada	SCImago #610 · THE =187 · QS =219	1
Liverpool John Moores University	United Kingdom	SCImago #2490 · THE 501–600 · QS 851-900	1
University of Toronto	Canada	SCImago #39 · THE 21 · QS 29	1
University of Cape Town	South Africa	SCImago #1052 · THE =164 · QS 150	1
University of Padua	Italy	THE 201–250	1
CBM International	Germany	—	1
Aarhus University	Denmark	SCImago #293 · THE 101 · QS 131	1
Université Paris Cité	France	THE =190 · QS 300	1
National University Hospital	Singapore	—	1
National University of Singapore	Singapore	SCImago #59 · THE 17 · QS 8	1

Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
United Kingdom	5
United States	5
Australia	4
Denmark	3

Country	Citing papers
Spain	2
Canada	2
China	2
Switzerland	2
Italy	1
Japan	1
Lebanon	1
Liberia	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.

2022  5

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	Lifetime prevalence and age-of-onset distributions of mental disorders in the World Health Organization's World Mental Health Survey Initiative	8	Dhanasar – Prong 2 (well-positioned)