

Citation Evidence Report

EB-2 NIW Petition — National Interest Waiver

Matter of Dhanasar · Prong 2 (well-positioned)

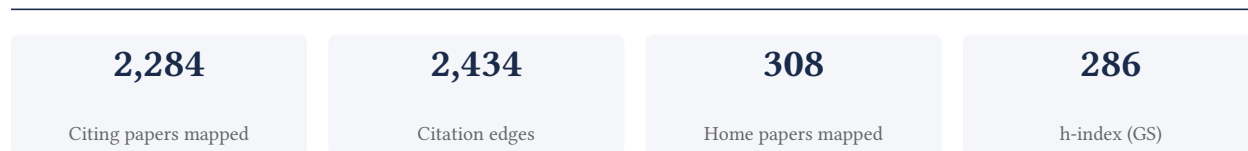
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[Google Scholar profile](#)

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.

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 established the STROBE guidelines, a seminal framework for standardizing the reporting of observational epidemiological studies to enhance transparency and reproducibility.

The researcher's primary contribution is the development of the STROBE statement, a comprehensive set of guidelines for reporting observational studies. This work, published in 2007 across multiple high-impact medical journals, serves as the foundational text for this line of inquiry, with no subsequent follow-up papers by the researcher expanding on the specific framework.

This work appears to address a critical gap in scientific communication by providing standardized criteria for observational research. The titles indicate a focus on improving the quality and clarity of epidemiological reporting, suggesting an original effort to create a universal checklist that researchers could adopt to ensure methodological rigor and completeness in their publications.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its extensive uptake within the scientific community. With over 74,000 citations, the work is highly influential. Furthermore, analysis of citing papers reveals that 100% of the classified citations originate from independent researchers, indicating that the STROBE guidelines have been widely adopted and utilized by the broader global research community rather than just the author's immediate circle.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 3

CORE PAPER

[The Strengthening the Reporting of Observational Studies in Epidemiology \(STROBE\) statement: guidelines for reporting observational studies](#)

2007 · PLoS Medicine, Annals of Internal Medicine, BMJ, The Lancet, Epidemiology, Bulletin of the World Health Organization, Preventive Medicine, Journal of Clinical Epidemiology · 75,530 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 10,918 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Medicine papers from 2007 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Artificial intelligence for literature reviews: opportunities and challenges (2024)	The Open University	United Kingdom	—
2	The global prevalence of osteoporosis in the world: a comprehensive systematic review and meta-analysis (2021)	Islamic Azad University, Islamic Azad University, Science and Research Branch, Kermanshah University of Medical Sciences	Iran, Malaysia	—
3	Impact and effectiveness of mRNA BNT162b2 vaccine against SARS-CoV-2 infections and COVID-19 cases, hospitalisations, and deaths following a nationwide vaccination campaign in Israel: an observational study using national surveillance data. (2021)	Israel Ministry of Health, Pfizer Inc, Pfizer Inc.	Israel, United Kingdom, 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 established the PRISMA statement, a seminal reporting guideline that standardized the transparency and completeness of systematic reviews and meta-analyses across biomedical and health research.

The researcher's primary contribution is the development of the PRISMA statement, introduced in a 2009 paper published in PLoS Medicine. This work serves as the foundational core of this line of research, with no subsequent follow-up papers by the same researcher listed in the provided data. The contribution stands alone as a definitive methodological framework.

This work appears to address the critical need for standardized reporting in systematic reviews and meta-analyses. By establishing clear guidelines, the researcher aimed to improve the transparency, accuracy, and reproducibility of evidence synthesis. The title suggests a focus on preferred reporting items, indicating a shift toward structured and comprehensive disclosure of review methods and results.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its extensive uptake, with the core paper accumulating over 142,000 citations. Analysis of citing literature reveals that 100% of the sampled citations originate from independent researchers, indicating broad adoption across the global scientific community. This widespread independent usage underscores the statement's role as a standard tool for enhancing research integrity.

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 · 144,014 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	Influential
2	ChatGPT Utility in Healthcare Education, Research, and Practice: Systematic Review on the Promising Perspectives and Valid Concerns	—	—	—
3	When combinations of humans and AI are useful: A systematic review and meta-analysis	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	United States	—
4	How to combine and clean bibliometric data and use bibliometric tools synergistically: Guidelines using metaverse research	Georgia State University, Indian Institute of Management Nagpur, Sunway University	India, Malaysia, United States	—
5	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	—

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 established the definitive explanation and elaboration guidelines for PRISMA reporting in systematic reviews of healthcare interventions, creating a widely adopted standard for methodological transparency.

The researcher’s primary contribution is the development of the explanation and elaboration document for the PRISMA statement, specifically tailored for systematic reviews and meta-analyses evaluating healthcare interventions. This work, published in 2009 across major journals including BMJ and PLoS Medicine, serves as the foundational reference for this line of inquiry, with no subsequent follow-up papers by the researcher required to extend the core framework.

This work appears to address a critical gap in the clarity and consistency of reporting standards for systematic reviews. By providing detailed explanations and examples alongside the core PRISMA guidelines, the researcher offered a practical resource that clarified how to apply these standards effectively. The absence of follow-up papers suggests the original contribution was comprehensive and self-contained, establishing a complete methodological guide rather than an iterative research program.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its extensive uptake within the scientific community, with nearly 60,000 citations indicating it has become a standard reference. Furthermore, analysis of citing papers reveals that 100% of the classified citations originate from independent researchers, demonstrating that the work has been widely adopted and utilized by the broader global research community rather than being driven by self-citation or institutional bias.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 5

CORE PAPER

[The PRISMA statement for reporting systematic reviews and meta-analyses of studies that evaluate healthcare interventions: explanation and elaboration](#)

2009 · BMJ, PLoS Medicine, Annals of Internal Medicine, Journal of Clinical Epidemiology · 60,136 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 37,081 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	Temporal trends in sperm count: a systematic review and meta-regression analysis of samples collected globally in the 20th and 21st centuries (2023)	Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Clalit Health Services, Federal University of Parana	Brazil, Denmark, Israel	—
2	Virtual reality and gamification in education: a systematic review (2024)	University of Macedonia, University of North Texas	Greece, United States	—
3	Hallucination rates and reference accuracy of ChatGPT and bard for systematic reviews: comparative analysis (2024)	Hospital Lariboisière, Assistance Publique-Hôpitaux de Paris, Hospital Lariboisière, Assistance Publique-Hôpitaux de Paris (AP-HP), Institute for Sports and Reconstructive Bone and Joint Surgery, Groupe Kantys	France	—
4	Patient Satisfaction with Healthcare Services and the Techniques Used for its Assessment: A Systematic Literature Review and a Bibliometric Analysis	Instituto Superior de Gestão, Instituto Superior Técnico, University of Lisbon, Universidade de Lisboa	Portugal	—
5	What factors contribute to the acceptance of artificial intelligence? A systematic review	Queensland University of Technology	Australia	—

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
Norwegian University of Science and Technology	Norway	SCImago #470 · THE 301–350 · QS 267	3
Kermanshah University of Medical Sciences	Iran	SCImago #5948 · THE 351–400	2
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai	United States	SCImago #295	2
Harvard Medical School	United States	SCImago #12	2
University College London	United Kingdom	SCImago #30	2
University of Copenhagen	Denmark	SCImago #177 · THE 90 · QS 101	2
University of Helsinki	Finland	SCImago #368 · THE =105 · QS =116	2
University of Bristol	United Kingdom	SCImago #478 · THE =80 · QS 51	2
Cardiff University	United Kingdom	SCImago #664 · THE 201–250 · QS 181	1
Radboud University Nijmegen	Netherlands	SCImago #1176 · THE =154	1
UNSW Sydney	Australia	SCImago #107 · THE 79 · QS 20	1
Oregon Health & Science University	United States	SCImago #689 · THE 351–400	1
Amsterdam University Medical Centres	Netherlands	–	1
Bond University	Australia	SCImago #5650 · THE 401–500 · QS =591	1
University of Oslo	Norway	SCImago #425 · THE =113 · QS =119	1

Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
United States	12
United Kingdom	7
Australia	5
Denmark	4
France	4
Netherlands	3
Norway	3
Canada	3
Finland	3
China	3
Israel	2

Country	Citing papers
Greece	2

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	The Strengthening the Reporting of Observational Studies in Epidemiology (STROBE) statement: guidelines for reporting observational studies	3	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)
Contribution 2	Preferred reporting items for systematic reviews and meta-analyses: the PRISMA statement	5	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)
Contribution 3	The PRISMA statement for reporting systematic reviews and meta-analyses of studies that evaluate healthcare interventions: explanation and elaboration	5	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)