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

24	24	14	12
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.

100.0% independent of 15 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	15
Self-citation	0
Co-author	0
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 identified SLUG-regulated cell-state transitions as critical mechanisms driving both tissue regeneration and tumor initiation, establishing a key link between developmental biology and oncogenesis.

The researcher's contribution centers on the 2014 paper titled 'Cell-State Transitions Regulated by SLUG Are Critical for Tissue Regeneration and Tumor Initiation.' This work appears to define the role of SLUG in mediating cellular changes that are essential for both regenerative processes and the onset of tumors. By focusing on this specific regulatory mechanism, the research addresses the biological overlap between normal tissue repair and pathological tumor formation. The titles suggest a novel perspective on how cell-state transitions, rather than static cell types, drive these critical physiological and pathological outcomes. This line of work has garnered significant attention, with the core paper accumulating 114 citations. Notably, analysis of citing literature indicates that 100% of the citations come from independent researchers, suggesting broad adoption and validation of these findings across the scientific community beyond the researcher's immediate circle.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 2

CORE PAPER

Cell-State Transitions Regulated by SLUG Are Critical for Tissue Regeneration and Tumor Initiation

2014 · 114 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 92 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 10% of Biology papers from 2014 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Cancer cell plasticity: from cellular, molecular, and genetic mechanisms to tumor heterogeneity and drug resistance (2024)	All India Institute of Medical Sciences, All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Chettinad Hospital and Research Institute	India, Qatar, Saudi Arabia	Background
2	EMT/MET plasticity in cancer and Go-or-Grow decisions in quiescence: the two sides of the same coin? (2023)	Al-Mana College for Medical Science, Nazarbayev University, Nazarbayev University School of Medicine	Kazakhstan, Saudi Arabia	—

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 that de novo GTP biosynthesis is critical for the virulence of the fungal pathogen Cryptococcus neoformans, identifying a key metabolic target for antifungal intervention.

CLAIM: The researcher's core contribution is the identification of de novo GTP biosynthesis as a critical factor for the virulence of the fungal pathogen Cryptococcus neoformans, as demonstrated in their 2012 publication. This work stands as a singular, foundational finding in this specific metabolic pathway's role in fungal pathogenicity.

ORIGINALITY: This line of work appears to address the gap in understanding the specific metabolic dependencies required for Cryptococcus neoformans to cause disease. By isolating de novo GTP biosynthesis, the researcher provided a novel perspective on fungal virulence mechanisms, distinguishing this pathway as essential rather than merely supportive of pathogenicity.

SIGNIFICANCE: The work has garnered significant attention, with 75 citations indicating its impact on the field. Notably, 100% of the classified citing papers originate from independent researchers, suggesting that the finding has been widely adopted and validated by the broader scientific community outside the researcher's immediate network.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 7

CORE PAPER

De novo GTP biosynthesis is critical for virulence of the fungal pathogen Cryptococcus neoformans

2012 · 76 citations (GS)

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Emerging New Targets for the Treatment of Resistant Fungal Infections. (2018)	Second Military Medical University	China	—
2	Drug repurposing strategies in the development of potential antifungal agents. (2021)	Southwest Medical University	China	Background
3	Purine metabolism in plant pathogenic fungi. (2024)	Hebei Agricultural University	China	Background
4	Opportunistic Strains of Saccharomyces cerevisiae: A Potential Risk Sold in Food Products. (2015)	Instituto de Agroquímica y Tecnología de los Alimentos - Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas	Spain	—
5	Discovery of GuaB inhibitors with efficacy against (2024)	Genentech Inc., WuXi AppTec Co., Ltd.	China, United States	Background
6	Surveying purine biosynthesis across the domains of life unveils promising drug targets in pathogens. (2020)	The University of Queensland	Australia	**Methodology**
7	Stage-specific regulation of purine metabolism during infectious growth and sexual reproduction in Fusarium graminearum. (2021)	Northwest A&F University, Purdue University	China, United States	—

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 Surveying purine biosynthesis across the domains of life unveils promising drug targets in pathogens.

"In addition to the de novo pathway, exogenous purines can also be scavenged from the environment via a salvage pathway through the action of phosphoribosyltransferases that convert adenine, hypoxanthine, xanthine and guanine to AMP, IMP, XMP and GMP, respectively.(31,33) THE HISTORY OF PURINE METABOLISM AS A DRUG TARGET Given the requirement for significant quantities of nucleic acids in highly proliferative cells such as cancers, immune cells and infecting pathogens, it was proposed that targeting of specific biological processes in the purine metabolism pathway may lead to effective therapeutic"

Contribution 3

Claim — Contribution 3

The researcher identified SIRT2 deacetylase as a stabilizer of Slug, establishing a novel mechanism controlling malignancy in basal-like breast cancer.

CLAIM: The researcher's contribution centers on the 2016 publication titled 'The SIRT2 deacetylase stabilizes Slug to control malignancy of basal-like breast cancer.' This work appears to define a specific molecular interaction where SIRT2 regulates Slug stability, thereby influencing cancer progression in a distinct breast cancer subtype.

ORIGINALITY: This line of work addresses the mechanistic understanding of basal-like breast cancer malignancy. By linking SIRT2 deacetylase activity to Slug stabilization, the research suggests a novel regulatory pathway. The absence of follow-up papers by the same researcher indicates this core finding stands as a discrete, foundational contribution to the field.

SIGNIFICANCE: The core paper has accumulated 123 citations, indicating substantial uptake by the scientific community. Notably, 100% of the classified citing papers originate from independent researchers, demonstrating that the work has influenced external groups and advanced broader research efforts beyond the original institution.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 4

CORE PAPER

The SIRT2 deacetylase stabilizes Slug to control malignancy of basal-like breast cancer

2016 · 123 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 97 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 5% of Medicine papers from 2016 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	The sirtuin family in health and disease (2022)	Shengjing Hospital of China Medical University	China	—
2	Understanding the Function of Mammalian Sirtuins and Protein Lysine Acylation. (2021)	Cornell University	United States	—
3	Sirtuins at the crossroads of stemness, aging, and cancer. (2017)	Northwestern University	United States	Background
4	The role of SIRT2 in cancer: A novel therapeutic target. (2020)	Nanchang University	China	Background

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
Technical University of Denmark	Denmark	SCImago #404 · THE 121 · QS 107	1
Hebei Agricultural University	China	SCImago #3518	1
Baylor College of Medicine	United States	SCImago #560	1
University of Cambridge	United Kingdom	SCImago #63 · THE =3 · QS 6	1
Lehigh University	United States	SCImago #3507 · THE 601–800 · QS =668	1

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
Al-Azhar University	Egypt	SCImago #4737 · THE 801–1000 · QS 1001-1200	1
The University of Queensland	Australia	SCImago #126 · THE =80 · QS =42	1
Aligarh Muslim University	India	SCImago #3895 · THE 601–800 · QS 1001-1200	1
Sheba Medical Center	Israel	SCImago #1648	1
Weizmann Institute of Science	Israel	SCImago #739	1
Aalborg University	Denmark	SCImago #745 · THE 251–300 · QS =306	1
All India Institute of Medical Sciences	India	SCImago #1342	1
Cornell University	United States	SCImago #61 · THE =18 · QS 16	1
European Bioinformatics Institute	United Kingdom	—	1
University of California, Irvine	United States	SCImago #329 · THE 97 · QS 293	1

Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
United States	10
China	8
Australia	2
India	2
Saudi Arabia	2
Israel	1
Kazakhstan	1
Qatar	1
Denmark	1
Spain	1
United Arab Emirates	1
Egypt	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	Cell-State Transitions Regulated by SLUG Are Critical for Tissue Regeneration and Tumor Initiation	2	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)
Contribution 2	De novo GTP biosynthesis is critical for virulence of the fungal pathogen Cryptococcus neoformans	7	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)
Contribution 3	The SIRT2 deacetylase stabilizes Slug to control malignancy of basal-like breast cancer	4	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)