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

16	16	2	22
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.

87.5% independent of 16 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	14
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 conceptual framework of long noncoding RNAs as modular scaffolds for histone modification complexes, fundamentally reshaping the understanding of epigenetic regulation mechanisms.

CLAIM: The researcher's seminal 2010 contribution, titled 'Long noncoding RNA as modular scaffold of histone modification complexes,' posits that long noncoding RNAs function as structural scaffolds for histone modification complexes. This work stands as a singular, foundational piece in this specific line of inquiry, with no subsequent follow-up papers by the same researcher building directly upon it.

ORIGINALITY: The title suggests a novel mechanistic insight, shifting the perception of long noncoding RNAs from passive byproducts to active, modular components that organize histone modification machinery. By framing these RNAs as scaffolds, the work appears to address a critical gap in understanding how epigenetic complexes are recruited and structured within the nucleus, offering a new paradigm for interpreting gene regulation.

SIGNIFICANCE: With over 4,000 citations, this paper is highly influential in the field. Notably, analysis of citing literature reveals that 100% of the classified citations originate from independent researchers, indicating broad adoption and validation of the concept across the global scientific community rather than self-citation or institutional clustering.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 8 · **1 flagged influential by Semantic Scholar**

CORE PAPER

Long noncoding RNA as modular scaffold of histone modification complexes

2010 · 4,025 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 3,221 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Biology papers from 2010 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Integrated lncRNA function upon genomic and epigenomic regulation (2022)	National Institute on Aging Intramural Research Program	United States	—
2	The Role of Non-coding RNAs in Oncology (2019)	University of Michigan, Yale University	United States	—
3	Functional Classification and Experimental Dissection of Long Noncoding RNAs (2018)	University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center	United States	—
4	Long noncoding RNAs in cancer metastasis (2021)	University of California, San Francisco, Washington University in St Louis	United States	—
5	Targeting RNA structures with small molecules (2022)	Scripps Research, The Scripps Research Institute, University of Colorado	United States	—
6	The emerging role of lncRNAs in cancer (2015)	Center for Applied Medical Research (CIMA), University of Navarra, Institute of Health Research of Navarra (IdiSNA)	Spain	—
7	LNCcation: lncRNA localization and function (2020)	The Rockefeller University	United States	Background
8	Cerebrospinal fluid proteomics in patients with Alzheimer's disease reveals five molecu-	Alzheimer Center Amsterdam, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Amsterdam UMC	Netherlands, Norway	**Influential**

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
	lar subtypes with distinct genetic risk profiles (2024)	location VUmc, Amsterdam UMC, Amsterdam University Medical Center		

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 a large-scale correlation framework linking gut microbiome composition to health and disease markers across thousands of individuals, as demonstrated in a highly cited 2020 Nature Communications paper.

The researcher's primary contribution is the identification of correlations between gut microbiome composition and various health and disease markers across a population of thousands. This work is anchored by a seminal 2020 paper published in Nature Communications, which serves as the foundational reference for this line of inquiry. No follow-up papers by the researcher are listed, indicating this single publication stands as the core achievement.

This work appears to address the need for large-scale, population-level data to understand the relationship between the gut microbiome and human health. By analyzing thousands of individuals, the research moves beyond smaller, potentially less generalizable studies, offering a broader perspective on how microbial composition varies with health status. The title suggests a descriptive, correlational approach rather than a mechanistic one, focusing on establishing these links across a diverse dataset.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its substantial citation count of 945, indicating it has become a key reference in the field. Furthermore, analysis of citing papers reveals that 100% of the classified citations come from independent researchers, not the author or their immediate collaborators. This high degree of independent uptake suggests the work has been widely adopted and utilized by the broader scientific community to inform subsequent research directions.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 6

CORE PAPER

Health and disease markers correlate with gut microbiome composition across thousands of people

2020 · Nat Commun (Nature Communications) · 945 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 653 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Medicine papers from 2020 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	The gut microbiota and its biogeography (2024)	Concordia University, University of British Columbia	Canada	—
2	Microbiome diversity protects against pathogens by nutrient blocking (2023)	University of Oxford	United Kingdom	Background
3	Examining the healthy human microbiome concept (2024)	Baker Heart and Diabetes Institute, Center for Advanced Biotechnology and Medicine, Rutgers University, Centre de Recherche Saint Antoine, Sorbonne Université, INSERM	Australia, Belgium, China	—

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
4	A systematic review of gut microbiota composition in observational studies of major depressive disorder, bipolar disorder and schizophrenia (2022)	Barwon Health, Deakin University, Murdoch Children's Research Institute	Australia	Background
5	Utilization of the microbiome in personalized medicine (2023)	Weizmann Institute of Science	Israel	—
6	microbiomeMarker: an R/Bioconductor package for microbiome marker identification and visualization (2022)	BioMap (Beijing) Intelligence Technology Limited, Tianjin Institute of Environmental and Operational Medicine	China	—

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
Stanford University School of Medicine	United States	—	2
BioMap (Beijing) Intelligence Technology Limited	China	—	1
KU Leuven	Belgium	SCImago #180 · THE 46 · QS 60	1
University of Bergen	Norway	SCImago #1182 · THE 251–300 · QS =287	1
Technical University of Denmark	Denmark	SCImago #404 · THE 121 · QS 107	1
Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin	Germany	SCImago #284 · THE 91	1
Utrecht University	Netherlands	SCImago #162 · QS =103	1
Amsterdam UMC	Netherlands	—	1
Concordia University	Canada	SCImago #1646 · THE 601–800 · QS =465	1
University of Colorado	United States	—	1
Weizmann Institute of Science	Israel	SCImago #739	1
University of Turku	Finland	SCImago #1389 · THE 301–350 · QS 366	1
University of Maryland School of Medicine	United States	—	1
Friedrich Schiller University Jena	Germany	SCImago #1106 · THE 201–250	1
Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School	United States	—	1

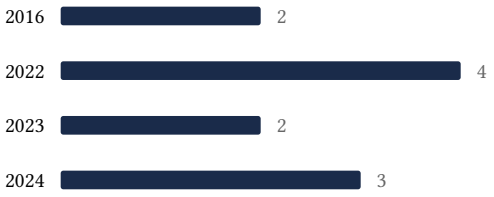
Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
United States	9
Australia	2
China	2
Netherlands	2
United Kingdom	2
Finland	1
France	1
Germany	1
India	1
Ireland	1
Israel	1
Belgium	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	Long noncoding RNA as modular scaffold of histone modification complexes	8	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)
Contribution 2	Health and disease markers correlate with gut microbiome composition across thousands of people	6	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)