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

38	38	5	18
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.

94.7% independent of 38 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	36
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 synthesis of mindfulness-based interventions for obesity-related eating behaviors, creating a highly cited reference point for subsequent clinical and behavioral research.

The researcher's contribution centers on the 2014 publication in Obesity Reviews, which provides a comprehensive literature review of mindfulness-based interventions for obesity-related eating behaviors. This work serves as the core anchor for this line of inquiry, establishing a critical baseline for understanding the intersection of mindfulness and dietary habits.

This line of work appears to address a significant gap by consolidating disparate findings into a coherent framework. By focusing specifically on eating behaviors rather than general weight loss, the researcher likely provided a nuanced perspective that was previously fragmented across various studies, thereby offering a new lens for evaluating behavioral interventions.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its substantial citation count of 859, indicating widespread adoption and influence within the field. Furthermore, the fact that 100% of the classified citing papers originate from independent researchers underscores the work's broad relevance and its role as a trusted, objective resource for scholars outside the researcher's immediate network.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 9

CORE PAPER

Mindfulness-based Interventions for Obesity-Related Eating Behaviours: A Literature Review

2014 · Obesity Reviews · 859 citations (GS)

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Development of food literacy in children and adolescents: implications for the design of strategies to promote healthier and more sustainable diets (2024)	Institut Paul Bocuse Research Center, Nofima AS, Universidad de la República	France, Ireland, Netherlands	—
2	Brain–gut–microbiome interactions in obesity and food addiction (2020)	University of California Los Angeles	United States	—
3	Obesity is associated with a distinct brain-gut microbiome signature that connects Prevotella and Bacteroides to the brain's reward center. (2022)	UCLA Microbiome Center, Vatche and Tamar Manoukian Division of Digestive Diseases	United States	—
4	A structured literature review on the role of mindfulness, mindful eating and intuitive eating in changing eating behaviours: effectiveness and associated potential mechanisms (2017)	—	—	—
5	Psychological Issues Associated With Obesity (2024)	Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai	United States	—
6	Blaming the Brain for Obesity: Integration of Hedonic and Homeostatic Mechanisms (2017)	Pennington Biomedical Research Center, Louisiana State University System	United States	—
7	Emotional Eating and Weight in Adults: a Review (2018)	McGill University	Canada	—
8	Psychotherapies for eating disorders: findings from a rapid review. (2023)	Healthcare Management Advisors, University of Sydney	Australia	—

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
9	Mindfulness-Based Interventions in Psychiatry. (2018)	Athinoula A. Martinos Center for Biomedical Imaging, Maastricht University Medical Center, Massachusetts General Hospital	Netherlands, 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).

Contribution 2

Claim — Contribution 2

The researcher established a foundational framework for mHealth in child obesity prevention, identifying key successes, challenges, and future directions in translational behavioral medicine.

The researcher's contribution centers on a seminal 2013 paper in Translational Behavioral Medicine that synthesizes mHealth approaches for child obesity prevention. This work articulates the successes, unique challenges, and next directions for the field, serving as a core reference point for subsequent inquiry.

This line of work appears to address the need for a comprehensive overview of mobile health interventions in pediatric obesity. By cataloging successes and challenges, the researcher provided a structured roadmap for practitioners and scholars navigating the complexities of digital behavioral interventions.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by 229 citations, with 100% originating from independent researchers. This high level of independent uptake suggests the work has become a widely recognized standard for understanding the landscape of mHealth in child obesity prevention.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 8 · **2 flagged influential by Semantic Scholar**

CORE PAPER

mHealth approaches to child obesity prevention: successes, unique challenges, and next directions

2013 · Translational Behavioral Medicine · 229 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 175 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 5% of Medicine papers from 2013 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Challenges in the development of digital public health interventions and mapped solutions: Findings from a scoping review. (2022)	British Columbia Centre for Disease Control, University of British Columbia	Canada	**Influential**
2	Digital Health Interventions for Weight Management in Children and Adolescents: Systematic Review and Meta-analysis (2022)	Harokopio University	Greece	Background
3	Commercial smartphone-based devices and smart applications for personalized healthcare monitoring and management (2014)	—	—	Background
4	Targeting Parents for Childhood Weight Management: Development of a Theory-	The University of Warwick	United Kingdom	**Influential**

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
	Driven and User-Centered Healthy Eating App (2015)			
5	The Comparative Effectiveness of Mobile Phone Interventions in Improving Health Outcomes: Meta-Analytic Review (2019)	Texas Christian University, University of Missouri-St. Louis	United States	—
6	Effectiveness of eHealth Interventions Promoting Physical Activity in Children and Adolescents: Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis (2024)	Universidad de Castilla-La Mancha, Universidad de Las Americas	Ecuador, Spain	—
7	Using the Unified Theory of Acceptance and Use of Technology (UTAUT) to Investigate the Intention to Use Physical Activity Apps: Cross-Sectional Survey (2019)	Sun Yat-sen University	China	**Methodology**
8	A Neural-Symbolic Approach to Reasoning with Incomplete Knowledge (2023)	—	—	—

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 Using the Unified Theory of Acceptance and Use of Technology (UTAUT) to Investigate the Intention to Use Physical Activity Apps: Cross-Sectional Survey

"One benefit of mobile health (mHealth) approaches over traditional methods is that interventions can be provided anywhere and at any time, making them potentially more accessible and feasible [16]."

Contribution 3

Claim — Contribution 3

The researcher provided a seminal synthesis of mHealth technologies for physical activity assessment and promotion, establishing a foundational reference in preventive medicine.

The researcher's contribution centers on the 2013 paper 'Current mHealth Technologies for Physical Activity Assessment and Promotion,' published in the American Journal of Preventive Medicine. This work serves as the core of this line of research, with no subsequent follow-up papers by the same author identified in the provided data.

This line of work appears to address the need for a comprehensive overview of mobile health tools used to evaluate and encourage physical activity. By synthesizing current technologies, the researcher likely filled a gap in understanding how digital interventions could be systematically applied to preventive health strategies at the time of publication.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its 201 citations, indicating substantial uptake by the scientific community. Notably, 100% of the classified citing papers originate from independent researchers, suggesting that the work has served as a widely accepted reference point for scholars outside the researcher's immediate network.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 5 · **1 flagged influential by Semantic Scholar**

CORE PAPER

Current mHealth Technologies for Physical Activity Assessment and Promotion

2013 · American Journal of Preventive Medicine · 201 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 143 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 5% of Medicine papers from 2013 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Mobile text messaging for health: a systematic review of reviews. (2015)	University of Washington	United States	Methodology
2	Efficacy of interventions that use apps to improve diet, physical activity and sedentary behaviour: a systematic review. (2016)	Central Queensland University, Ghent University, The University of Newcastle	Australia, Belgium	—
3	The effectiveness of e-& mHealth interventions to promote physical activity and healthy diets in developing countries: A systematic review. (2016)	Central Queensland University, University of Southampton	Australia, United Kingdom	Background
4	A Fitbit and Facebook mHealth intervention for promoting physical activity among adolescent and young adult childhood cancer survivors: A pilot study. (2017)	Seattle Children's Research Institute, University of Washington	United States	—
5	mHealth Application Areas and Technology Combinations*. A Comparison of Literature from High and Low/Middle Income Countries. (2017)	—	—	—

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 Mobile text messaging for health: a systematic review of reviews.

"...to bridge the gap between mobile technological advancements and delays in RCT TMI findings, more adaptive and iterative study design and evaluation methods could be implemented, such as the Multiphase Optimization Strategy (MOST) and the Sequential Multiple Assignment Randomized Trial (SMART) (34)."

D. Citing-Institution Prestige & Geography

Top citing institutions

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
University of Washington	United States	SCImago #45 · THE 25 · QS 81	4
University of California, Los Angeles	United States	SCImago #70 · THE =18 · QS 46	3
University of Pittsburgh	United States	SCImago #212 · QS =281	2
Central Queensland University	Australia	SCImago #4119 · THE 401–500 · QS =499	2
University College London	United Kingdom	SCImago #30	2
University of Michigan	United States	SCImago #43 · THE 23 · QS 45	2
Penn State	United States	THE =108	1
Harokopio University	Greece	SCImago #5717	1
Massachusetts General Hospital	United States	SCImago #100	1

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
Pennington Biomedical Research Center, Louisiana State University System	United States	—	1
University of Cambridge	United Kingdom	SCImago #63 · THE =3 · QS 6	1
McGill University	Canada	SCImago #168 · THE =41 · QS 27	1
National University of Singapore	Singapore	SCImago #59 · THE 17 · QS 8	1
University of California Los Angeles	United States	SCImago #70 · THE =18 · QS 46	1
Wageningen University and Research	Netherlands	THE 66 · QS =153	1

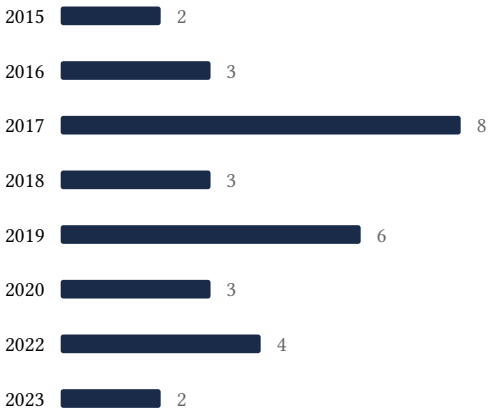
Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
United States	21
United Kingdom	4
Australia	4
Netherlands	3
Canada	2
Spain	2
Ireland	1
Norway	1
Singapore	1
Uruguay	1
Belgium	1
China	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	Mindfulness-based Interventions for Obesity-Related Eating Behaviours: A Literature Review	9	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)
Contribution 2	mHealth approaches to child obesity prevention: successes, unique challenges, and next directions	8	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)
Contribution 3	Current mHealth Technologies for Physical Activity Assessment and Promotion	5	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)