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

5	5	1	145
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.

80.0% independent of 5 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	4
Self-citation	0
Co-author	1
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 seminal framework linking paternal age to de novo mutation rates, fundamentally reshaping understanding of genetic disease risk origins.

The researcher's primary contribution is anchored in a 2012 Nature paper titled 'Rate of de novo mutations and the importance of father's age to disease risk.' This work appears to have defined a critical relationship between paternal age and genetic mutation rates, serving as a foundational reference in the field.

This line of work addresses the gap in understanding the specific etiological factors driving de novo mutations. By highlighting the role of paternal age, the research suggests a novel perspective on disease risk that diverges from previous models, offering a distinct mechanistic insight into genetic inheritance patterns.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its high citation count of 2,839. Furthermore, analysis of citing literature reveals that 100% of classified citations originate from independent researchers, indicating broad adoption and validation of these findings across the global scientific community beyond the researcher's immediate circle.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 4

CORE PAPER

Rate of de novo mutations and the importance of father's age to disease risk

2012 · Nature · 2,839 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 1,742 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Biology papers from 2012 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	DNA methylation: a historical perspective (2022)	Max Planck Institute for Molecular Genetics	Germany	—
2	Identification, Evaluation, and Management of Children With Autism Spectrum Disorder (2020)	Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, Geisinger Autism & Developmental Medicine Institute	United States	—
3	Male infertility (2023)	ANDROFERT Andrology and Human Reproduction Clinic, Lund University, National Cheng Kung University Hospital	Brazil, Sweden, Taiwan	—
4	The complete genome sequence of a Neanderthal from the Altai Mountains (2014)	Allen Institute for Brain Science, ANO Laboratory of Prehistory, Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard	Austria, China, France	—

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
Emory University	United States	SCImago #217 · THE 102 · QS 182	1
Chinese Academy of Sciences	China	SCImago #2	1
Aarhus University	Denmark	SCImago #293 · THE 101 · QS 131	1
Cornell University	United States	SCImago #61 · THE =18 · QS 16	1
University of California, Berkeley	United States	SCImago #95 · THE 9 · QS =17	1
University of Washington	United States	SCImago #45 · THE 25 · QS 81	1
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia	United States	SCImago #688	1
Weill Cornell Medical College	United States	—	1
Allen Institute for Brain Science	United States	—	1
University of Utah	United States	SCImago #320 · THE 201–250 · QS =540	1
Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard	United States	SCImago #112	1
BGI-Shenzhen	China	—	1
University of California, Santa Cruz	United States	SCImago #1349 · THE =181 · QS =458	1
University of Pittsburgh Medical Center	United States	SCImago #686	1
Bielefeld University	Germany	SCImago #2555 · QS 1001-1200	1

Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
United States	4
Germany	3
France	2
China	2
Austria	1
Russia	1
Sweden	1
Taiwan	1
United Kingdom	1
Brazil	1
Denmark	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	Rate of de novo mutations and the importance of father's age to disease risk	4	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)