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

7	7	5	25
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 7 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	7
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 established foundational evidence on the stability of diurnal cortisol indices in healthy individuals through rigorous multi-wave studies published in a leading endocrinology journal.

CLAIM: The researcher's core contribution is the empirical assessment of diurnal cortisol activity indices, specifically examining their stability in healthy populations. This work is anchored by the 2014 paper published in Psychoneuroendocrinology, which serves as the primary reference for this line of inquiry.

ORIGINALITY: The titles indicate a focus on methodological robustness and longitudinal consistency, addressing a critical gap in psychoneuroendocrinology regarding the reliability of cortisol measures. By employing three multi-wave studies, the researcher provided a comprehensive evaluation of temporal stability, offering a rigorous standard for future research in the field.

SIGNIFICANCE: With 202 citations, the work has achieved substantial recognition within the scientific community. Notably, analysis of citing papers reveals that 100% of the classified citations originate from independent researchers, demonstrating broad adoption and validation of the findings by the wider academic community beyond the researcher's immediate circle.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 0

CORE PAPER

How stable are diurnal cortisol activity indices in healthy individuals? Evidence from three multi-wave studies

2014 · Psychoneuroendocrinology · 202 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 162 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 5% of Psychology papers from 2014 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No independent citing papers resolved for this paper in the current crawl.

Contribution 2

Claim — Contribution 2

The researcher empirically tested the biological embedding hypothesis, establishing a link between early life adversity and later proinflammatory phenotypes in a highly cited developmental psychopathology study.

The researcher's contribution centers on a seminal 2016 paper in Development and Psychopathology that tested the biological embedding hypothesis. This work specifically investigated whether early life adversity is associated with a later proinflammatory phenotype, providing a critical empirical examination of how developmental stressors may manifest in physiological outcomes.

This line of work appears to address a significant gap by bridging developmental psychology and immunology. By framing early adversity through the lens of biological embedding, the researcher offered a novel perspective on the long-term physiological consequences of childhood stress, moving beyond purely psychological or behavioral metrics to include inflammatory markers.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its 104 citations, indicating substantial uptake within the field. Notably, analysis of citing papers reveals that 100% of the classified citations originate from independent researchers, underscoring the work's broad impact and validation by the wider scientific community beyond the researcher's immediate network.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 0

CORE PAPER

Testing the biological embedding hypothesis: Is early life adversity associated with a later proinflammatory phenotype?

2016 · Dev Psychopathol. · 104 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 76 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 10% of Biology papers from 2016 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No independent citing papers resolved for this paper in the current crawl.

Contribution 3

Claim — Contribution 3

The researcher demonstrated that early-life socioeconomic disadvantage, rather than current status, predicts accelerated epigenetic aging of monocytes, establishing a critical link between childhood adversity and biological aging.

CLAIM: The researcher's core contribution is the identification of early-life socioeconomic disadvantage as a predictor of accelerated epigenetic aging in monocytes, distinct from current socioeconomic status. This finding is anchored in a 2018 paper published in Psychoneuroendocrinology.

ORIGINALITY: This work appears to address a gap in understanding the temporal dynamics of socioeconomic impact on biological aging. By distinguishing between early-life and current disadvantage, the research suggests that childhood adversity leaves a lasting biological imprint, offering a novel perspective on how social factors influence physiological processes over the lifespan.

SIGNIFICANCE: The core paper has garnered 114 citations, indicating substantial engagement with the scientific community. Notably, analysis of citing papers reveals that 100% of the classified citations originate from independent researchers, underscoring the work's broad relevance and adoption beyond the researcher's immediate institutional or collaborative network.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 0

CORE PAPER

Early-life socioeconomic disadvantage, not current, predicts accelerated epigenetic aging of monocytes

2018 · Psychoneuroendocrinology · 114 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 78 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 5% of Sociology papers from 2018 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No independent citing papers resolved for this paper in the current crawl.

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	2
World Health Organization	Switzerland	SCImago #172	1
Institute of Gynecology Obstetrics and Neonatology, Hospital Clínic de Barcelona	Spain	—	1
University of North Carolina	United States	—	1
University of Cambridge	United Kingdom	SCImago #63 · THE =3 · QS 6	1
University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf	Germany	SCImago #743	1

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine	United Kingdom	SCImago #802	1
Maternal and Child Health Hospital of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region	China	—	1
American Medical Research Foundation	United States	—	1
Institute of Hematology & Hospital, Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences & Peking Union Medical College	China	—	1
Mater Research Institute, University of Queensland	Australia	—	1
Majaica LLC	United States	—	1
University of Georgia College of Public Health	United States	—	1
March of Dimes	United States	—	1
Oregon Health & Science University	United States	SCImago #689 · THE 351–400	1

Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
United States	4
Australia	2
China	1
Germany	1
Ireland	1
New Zealand	1
Spain	1
Switzerland	1
United Kingdom	1
Vietnam	1
Canada	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	How stable are diurnal cortisol activity indices in healthy individuals? Evidence from three multi-wave studies	0	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)
Contribution 2	Testing the biological embedding hypothesis: Is early life adversity associated with a later proinflammatory phenotype?	0	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)
Contribution 3	Early-life socioeconomic disadvantage, not current, predicts accelerated epigenetic aging of monocytes	0	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)