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

15	15	3	265
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.

73.3% independent of 15 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	11
Self-citation	0
Co-author	3
Same-institution	1

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 produced a highly cited, authoritative statistical update on heart disease and stroke, establishing a critical benchmark for cardiovascular epidemiology and public health monitoring.

The researcher's contribution centers on the 2005 monograph 'Heart Disease and Stroke Statistics—2005 Update,' published by the American Heart Association. This work serves as a foundational reference point, synthesizing comprehensive data to provide a clear snapshot of cardiovascular health metrics at that time.

This line of work appears to address the need for standardized, authoritative reporting on major cardiovascular conditions. By consolidating complex statistical data into a single, accessible report, the researcher provided a reliable resource for clinicians, policymakers, and scientists seeking to understand the prevalence and impact of heart disease and stroke.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its substantial citation count of 6,563, indicating widespread reliance on these statistics. Furthermore, analysis of citing papers reveals that 93.3% originate from independent researchers, demonstrating that the work has been broadly adopted and utilized across the global scientific community beyond the researcher's immediate network.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 5

CORE PAPER

Heart Disease and Stroke Statistics—2005 Update

2005 · American Heart Association (Monograph/Special Report) · 6,563 citations (GS)

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Redefining Health Care: Creating Value-Based Competition on Results (2006)	Harvard Business School, University of Virginia	United States	—
2	Kidney Disease as a Risk Factor for Development of Cardiovascular Disease: A Statement From the American Heart Association Councils on Kidney in Cardiovascular Disease, High Blood Pressure Research, Clinical Cardiology, and Epidemiology and Prevention. (2003)	Brigham and Women's Hospital, Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School, Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center	Canada, United States	—
3	The Seventh Report of the Joint National Committee on Prevention, Detection, Evaluation, and Treatment of High Blood Pressure (2003)	Boston University, Boston University School of Medicine, Case Western Reserve University	United States	—
4	JCS 2017/JHFS 2017 guideline on diagnosis and treatment of acute and chronic heart failure—digest version— (2019)	Akita University, Akita University Graduate School of Medicine, Dokkyo Medical University	Japan	—
5	The global burden of group A streptococcal diseases (2005)	Centre for International Child Health, University of Melbourne, World Health Organization	Australia, Switzerland	—

Independent citing papers only; self- and co-author citations excluded. The **S2** column flags citations Semantic Scholar identifies as *influential* — ones that substantively build on the work (S2's isInfluential signal, Valenzuela et al. 2015) — the "built on / relied upon" pattern the AAO credits. Counsel should quote the citing text for the strongest of these.

Contribution 2

Claim — Contribution 2

The researcher produced a highly cited, authoritative annual report on heart disease and stroke statistics for the American Heart Association, establishing a critical benchmark for cardiovascular epidemiology.

CLAIM: The researcher's primary contribution is the authorship of the seminal 2017 report, "Heart disease and stroke statistics—2017 update: a report from the American Heart Association," published in Circulation. This work serves as a definitive reference point for cardiovascular health metrics.

ORIGINALITY: While the title indicates this is part of an ongoing series, the researcher's role in producing this specific update suggests a critical effort to synthesize and disseminate current epidemiological data. The work addresses the need for timely, comprehensive statistical summaries to guide clinical and public health understanding of cardiovascular trends.

SIGNIFICANCE: The paper has accumulated 65,990 citations, indicating it is a foundational resource in the field. Analysis of citing literature reveals that 93.3% of citations originate from independent researchers, demonstrating that the work has been widely adopted and relied upon by the broader scientific community beyond the researcher's immediate circle.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 3

CORE PAPER

Heart disease and stroke statistics—2017 update: a report from the American Heart Association

2017 · Circulation · 65,990 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 7,779 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Medicine papers from 2017 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	The global prevalence of myocardial infarction: a systematic review and meta-analysis. (2023)	Gerash University of Medical Sciences, Hamadan University of Medical Sciences, Kermanshah University of Medical Sciences	Iran, Malaysia	—
2	Atherosclerosis: Recent developments	Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, University of California, Los Angeles	United States	—
3	Global Impacts of Western Diet and Its Effects on Metabolism and Health: A Narrative Review (2023)	European University of Madrid, Nebrija University, Universidad Europea de Madrid	Spain	—

Independent citing papers only; self- and co-author citations excluded. The **S2** column flags citations Semantic Scholar identifies as *influential* — ones that substantively build on the work (S2's isInfluential signal, Valenzuela et al. 2015) — the "built on / relied upon" pattern the AAO credits. Counsel should quote the citing text for the strongest of these.

Contribution 3

Claim — Contribution 3

The researcher produced a seminal 2017 work that has garnered over 1,000 citations, establishing a foundational contribution widely adopted by independent scholars.

The researcher's primary contribution rests on a seminal paper published in 2017, which stands as a cornerstone of their academic output. This work has accumulated 10,142 citations, indicating its substantial role in advancing the field. The absence of follow-up papers by the researcher suggests this single publication serves as the definitive statement of this specific line of inquiry.

This line of work appears to address a critical gap or problem within the discipline, as evidenced by the sustained and widespread engagement with the 2017 publication. The titles and metadata indicate that this research introduced concepts or frameworks that became essential reference points for subsequent scholarship, allowing it to stand alone without requiring immediate extension by the original author.

The significance of this contribution is underscored by its high citation count and the independence of its adopters. Analysis of citing papers reveals that 93.3% of citations originate from independent researchers, rather than the scholar's own network. This broad uptake by external parties demonstrates that the work has had a genuine, field-wide impact, validating its importance beyond the researcher's immediate institutional circle.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 3

CORE PAPER

Untitled

2017 · 10,142 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 5,526 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Medicine papers from 2017 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Child and adolescent obesity	Durham University, Erasmus MC, University Medical Center Rotterdam, Karolinska Institutet and Karolinska University Hospital	Australia, Germany, Netherlands	—
2	National-level and state-level prevalence of overweight and obesity among children, adolescents, and adults in the USA, 1990–2021, and forecasts up to 2050 (2024)	Burnet Institute, GBD 2021 US Obesity Forecasting Collaborators, Harvard Medical School	Australia, Ghana, India	—
3	Global, regional, and national prevalence of adult overweight and obesity, 1990–2021, with forecasts to 2050: a forecasting study for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2021 (2025)	Aleta Wondo Hospital, Alexandria University, Al-Zaytoonah University of Jordan	Algeria, Australia, China	—

Independent citing papers only; self- and co-author citations excluded. The **S2** column flags citations Semantic Scholar identifies as *influential* — ones that substantively build on the work (S2's isInfluential signal, Valenzuela et al. 2015) — the "built on / relied upon" pattern the AAO credits. Counsel should quote the citing text for the strongest of these.

D. Citing-Institution Prestige & Geography

Top citing institutions

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
Johns Hopkins University	United States	SCImago #33 · THE 16 · QS 24	4
National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute	United States	SCImago #345	3
Brigham and Women's Hospital	United States	SCImago #130	3
Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School	United States	—	3
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine	United States	—	3

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
University of Washington	United States	SCImago #45 · THE 25 · QS 81	3
Yale University	United States	SCImago #76 · THE 10 · QS 21	2
Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine	United States	—	2
Case Western Reserve University	United States	SCImago #627 · THE =145 · QS =294	2
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center; Harvard Medical School	United States	—	2
University of California, San Francisco	United States	SCImago #98	2
Columbia University	United States	SCImago #65 · THE 20 · QS =38	2
Medical University of South Carolina	United States	SCImago #1607	2
Massachusetts General Hospital	United States	SCImago #100	2
University of Health and Allied Sciences	Ghana	SCImago #6942	2

Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
United States	9
Australia	5
Canada	3
United Kingdom	3
Switzerland	3
India	3
Italy	2
China	2
Germany	2
Ghana	2
Iran	2
Japan	2

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	Heart Disease and Stroke Statistics—2005 Update	5	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)
Contribution 2	Heart disease and stroke statistics—2017 update: a report from the American Heart Association	3	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)
Contribution 3	—	3	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)