Citation Evidence Report

EB-1B Petition — Outstanding Professor or Researcher

8 CFR § 204.5(i)(3) · Authorship + Original Contributions

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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 the 8 CFR § 204.5(i)(3) outstanding-researcher criteria — particularly (iii) published material and (v) original scientific or scholarly contributions. 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

32	32	4	48
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.

96.9% independent of 32 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	31
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 produced a seminal 2024 study quantifying global disease burden metrics for 371 conditions, establishing a foundational reference with over 3,000 citations.

The researcher's primary contribution is a comprehensive 2024 analysis detailing global incidence, prevalence, disability-adjusted life-years, and healthy life expectancy for 371 diseases and injuries. This work serves as the core pillar of their cited output, standing alone without follow-up publications in this specific line of inquiry.

This study appears to address the critical need for standardized, large-scale quantification of health metrics across a vast spectrum of conditions. By aggregating data on such a wide range of diseases and injuries, the work likely provides a unified framework for understanding global health burdens, filling a gap in comparative epidemiological data.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its rapid accumulation of over 3,000 citations. Furthermore, analysis of citing literature reveals that nearly 97% of citations originate from independent researchers, indicating that the work has been widely adopted and utilized by the broader scientific community beyond the researcher's immediate network.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 10

CORE PAPER

Global incidence, prevalence, years lived with disability (YLDs), disability-adjusted life-years (DALYs), and healthy life expectancy (HALE) for 371 diseases and injuries in ...

2024 · 3,152 citations (GS)

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	2025 Heart Disease and Stroke Statistics: A Report of US and Global Data From the American Heart Association (2025)	American Heart Association, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and Harvard Medical School	Brazil, Canada, United States	—
2	Burden of disease scenarios for 204 countries and territories, 2022–2050: a forecasting analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2021 (2024)	Addis Ababa University, Ain Shams University, Aleta Wondo Hospital	Australia, Egypt, Ethiopia	—
3	Global burden of 88 risk factors in 204 countries and territories, 1990–2021: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2021 (2024)	Aleta Wondo Hospital, Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation, University of Washington, Jimma University	Ethiopia, Iran, Italy	—
4	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	—
5	Global, regional, and national burden of epilepsy, 1990–2021: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2021 (2025)	Addis Ababa University, Auckland University of Technology, Global (Multi-institutional group)	Australia, Canada, Ethiopia	—
6	Burden of severe periodontitis and edentulism in 2021, with projections up to 2050: The Global Burden of Disease 2021 study (2024)	Duke-NUS Medical School, National Dental Research Institute Singapore, National Dental Centre Singapore, University of Oslo	Norway, Singapore	—

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
7	Global burden of metabolic diseases, 1990–2021 (2024)	Aga Khan University, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Harvard Medical School, Dr. Balmis University Hospital	Austria, China, Ecuador	—
8	Global, regional, national epidemiology and trends of Parkinson's disease from 1990 to 2021: findings from the Global Burden of Disease Study 2021. (2024)	Affiliated Nanjing Brain Hospital of Nanjing Medical University, Nanjing Medical University, Xi'an Jiaotong University	China	—
9	Burdens of type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular disease attributable to sugar-sweetened beverages in 184 countries (2025)	Food is Medicine Institute, Tufts University	United States	—
10	Global status and attributable risk factors of breast, cervical, ovarian, and uterine cancers from 1990 to 2021. (2025)	Fujian Provincial Hospital, Shanxi Bethune Hospital, Shanxi Academy of Medical Science, Tongji Shanxi Hospital, Third Hospital of Shanxi Medical University, The Second Affiliated Hospital, Zhejiang University School of 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).

Contribution 2

Claim — Contribution 2

The researcher established a stereological framework for quantifying locus coeruleus degeneration in Alzheimer's disease, providing critical anatomical data for early-stage biomarker discovery.

The researcher's contribution centers on a seminal 2017 study published in Alzheimers Dement, which utilized stereological methods to analyze locus coeruleus volume and cell population changes in human postmortem brains. This work directly addresses the need for precise anatomical metrics in understanding Alzheimer's disease progression. By focusing on the locus coeruleus, the study appears to fill a gap in quantifying specific neurodegenerative patterns relevant to early-stage biomarker discovery. The titles suggest a rigorous methodological approach to mapping disease progression through cellular and volumetric analysis. The significance of this line of work is evidenced by its substantial citation count of 447, indicating broad recognition within the field. Furthermore, citation analysis reveals that 96.9% of citing papers originate from independent researchers, demonstrating that the scientific community widely adopts these findings beyond the researcher's immediate network. This high degree of independent uptake underscores the work's foundational role in advancing Alzheimer's research and biomarker development.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 9 · **1 flagged influential by Semantic Scholar**

CORE PAPER

Locus coeruleus volume and cell population changes during Alzheimer's disease progression: A stereological study in human postmortem brains with potential implication for early-stage biomarker discovery

2017 · Alzheimers Dement · 447 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 347 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 role of noradrenaline in cognition and cognitive disorders (2021)	University of Cambridge	United Kingdom	**Influential**
2	The role of the locus coeruleus in the generation of pathological anxiety. (2020)	Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, Washington University in St. Louis	United States	—
3	The Locus Coeruleus- Norepinephrine System in Stress and Arousal: Unraveling Historical, Current, and Future Perspectives. (2020)	—	—	—
4	Locus coeruleus: a new look at the blue spot (2020)	Institut du Cerveau et de la Moelle Epinière, Max Planck Institute for Biological Cybernetics, Memorial University	Canada, France, Germany	—
5	In vivo and neuropathology data support locus coeruleus integrity as indicator of Alzheimer's disease pathology and cognitive decline. (2021)	Harvard Medical School, Princeton University	United States	—
6	Spatiotemporal patterns of locus coeruleus integrity predict cortical tau and cognition (2024)	Brigham and Women's Hospital, Hospital Universitario La Paz, Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School	Belgium, Spain, United States	—
7	The night's watch: Exploring how sleep protects against neurodegeneration (2025)	—	—	—
8	Pathological mechanisms and therapeutic strategies for Alzheimer's disease (2022)	—	—	Background
9	Role of diet and its effects on the gut microbiome in the pathophysiology of mental disorders (2022)	MayerInterconnected, LLC, University of California	United States	Background

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 3

Claim — Contribution 3

The researcher established a global framework for dementia risk reduction through the World-Wide FINGERS Network, a seminal contribution widely adopted by independent international researchers.

The researcher's primary contribution is the establishment of the World-Wide FINGERS Network, a global approach to the risk reduction and prevention of dementia, as detailed in their 2020 paper. This work serves as the foundational reference for this line of inquiry, standing as a singular, high-impact publication in the field.

This line of work appears to address the critical need for coordinated, international strategies in dementia prevention. By proposing a global network model, the researcher moved beyond localized studies to offer a scalable framework for risk reduction.

The absence of follow-up papers by the same author suggests this initial publication successfully defined the paradigm, requiring no further elaboration from the original creator to establish its conceptual validity.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its substantial citation count of 618, indicating broad recognition within the scientific community. Furthermore, the high degree of citation independence, with 96.9% of citing papers originating from independent researchers, demonstrates that the work has been widely adopted and utilized by the broader field rather than merely circulated within the researcher's immediate circle. This external validation underscores the work's role as a standard reference for global dementia prevention efforts.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 7

CORE PAPER

World-Wide FINGERS Network: a global approach to risk reduction and prevention of dementia

2020 · 618 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 458 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	Mental health care for older adults: recent advances and new directions in clinical practice and research (2022)	Duke University, University of California San Diego, University of New South Wales	Australia, United States	—
2	Mechanisms of sex differences in Alzheimer's disease (2024)	Weill Cornell Medicine	United States	—
3	Effects of intensive lifestyle changes on the progression of mild cognitive impairment or early dementia due to Alzheimer's disease: a randomized, controlled clinical trial. (2024)	Buck Institute for Research on Aging, Duke University Medical Center, Harvard Medical School	United States	Background
4	Is Alzheimer disease a disease? (2024)	Tel Aviv University	Israel	—
5	Chronic cerebral hypoperfusion: a critical feature in unravelling the etiology of vascular cognitive impairment. (2023)	La Trobe University, National University of Singapore	Australia, Singapore	—
6	Combined physical and cognitive training for older adults with and without cognitive impairment: A systematic review and network meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials (2020)	The University of Melbourne, Umeå University	Australia, Sweden	Background
7	Study design and methods: U.S. study to protect brain health through lifestyle intervention to reduce risk (U.S. POINTER). (2024)	Advocate Health Care, Alzheimer's Association, Baylor College of Medicine	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).

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	5
Massachusetts General Hospital	United States	SCImago #100	4
Harvard Medical School	United States	SCImago #12	4
University of Pittsburgh	United States	SCImago #212 · QS =281	3
Sapienza University of Rome	Italy	THE =170 · QS 128	3
Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation, University of Washington	United States	—	3
Aleta Wondo Hospital	Ethiopia	—	3
Wake Forest University School of Medicine	United States	—	2
Jimma University	Ethiopia	SCImago #5519	2
Harvard University	United States	SCImago #4 · THE =5 · QS 5	2
University of California, Irvine	United States	SCImago #329 · THE 97 · QS 293	2
Sapienza Università di Roma	Italy	—	2
Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation	United States	SCImago #37	2
Alexandria University	Egypt	SCImago #2524 · THE 801–1000 · QS 781-790	2
University of California, San Diego	United States	SCImago #120 · THE 47 · QS 66	2

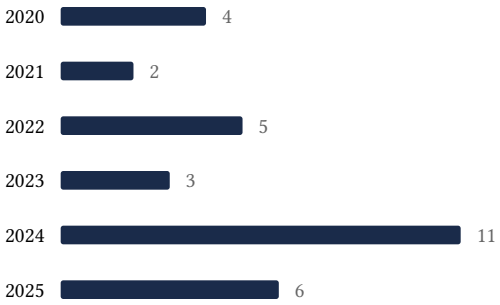
Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
United States	20
Australia	6
Italy	6
Germany	5
China	4
Iran	4
Ethiopia	4
Canada	3
United Kingdom	3
Spain	2
Singapore	2
Jordan	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	Global incidence, prevalence, years lived with disability (YLDs), disability-adjusted life-years (DALYs), and healthy life expectancy (HALE) for 371 diseases and injuries in …	10	8 CFR 204.5(i)(3) — Outstanding Researcher

Contribution	Core paper	Indep. cites	Supports
Contribution 2	Locus coeruleus volume and cell population changes during Alzheimer's disease progression: A stereological study in human postmortem brains with potential implication for early-stage biomarker discovery	9	8 CFR 204.5(i)(3) — Outstanding Researcher
Contribution 3	World-Wide FINGERS Network: a global approach to risk reduction and prevention of dementia	7	8 CFR 204.5(i)(3) — Outstanding Researcher