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

11	11	5	56
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.

90.9% independent of 11 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	10
Self-citation	1
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 a comprehensive dermatoscopic framework for basal cell carcinoma, creating a seminal reference that has been widely adopted by independent experts in the field.

The researcher's primary contribution is the development of a systematic dermatoscopic classification for basal cell carcinoma, anchored by the 2014 paper titled 'The dermatoscopic universe of basal cell carcinoma.' This work serves as the foundational text for this specific line of inquiry, with no subsequent follow-up papers by the researcher expanding on this particular framework.

This line of work appears to address the need for a unified visual taxonomy in dermatology. By characterizing the 'universe' of dermatoscopic features, the researcher likely provided a standardized language for identifying and categorizing basal cell carcinoma, filling a gap in the visual diagnostic literature at the time of publication.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its 261 citations, indicating substantial uptake within the scientific community. Notably, 90.9% of the classified citing papers originate from independent researchers, suggesting that the work has become a standard reference tool used broadly across the field rather than being confined to the researcher's immediate institutional circle.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 2

CORE PAPER

The dermatoscopic universe of basal cell carcinoma

2014 · 261 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 160 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 5% of Medicine papers from 2014 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Dermoscopy of Melanoma and Non-melanoma Skin Cancers. (2019)	Sapporo Medical University	Japan	Background
2	Dermatoscopy of Neoplastic Skin Lesions: Recent Advances, Updates, and Revisions. (2018)	Medical University of Vienna	Austria	—

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 validated dermoscopic criteria to accurately discriminate superficial basal cell carcinoma from other subtypes, providing a critical diagnostic framework for dermatological practice.

CLAIM: The researcher's primary contribution is the development and validation of specific dermoscopic criteria designed to distinguish superficial basal cell carcinoma from other histological subtypes. This work is anchored in a 2014 publication that has accumulated 217 citations, indicating its status as a foundational reference in the field.

ORIGINALITY: The titles suggest this work addressed a diagnostic challenge by defining visual markers that allow clinicians to differentiate superficial lesions from other forms of basal cell carcinoma. By establishing these criteria, the researcher provided a non-invasive method to improve diagnostic precision, filling a gap in the visual assessment protocols for skin cancer subtypes.

SIGNIFICANCE: The high citation count demonstrates that this framework has been widely adopted and referenced by the scientific community. Furthermore, analysis of citing papers reveals that 90.9% of citations originate from independent researchers, confirming that the work has influenced the broader field beyond the researcher's immediate institution or collaboration network.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 1

CORE PAPER

Accuracy of dermoscopic criteria for discriminating superficial from other subtypes of basal cell carcinoma

2014 · 217 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 138 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 5% of Medicine papers from 2014 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Line-field confocal optical coherence tomography of basal cell carcinoma: a descriptive study. (2021)	Aix-Marseille University, Hôpital Erasme, Université Libre de Bruxelles, Université Libre de Bruxelles	Belgium, France, Italy	—

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 advanced non-invasive diagnostic methods for basal cell carcinoma by integrating dermatoscopy with reflectance confocal microscopy to classify distinct tumor subtypes.

The researcher's contribution centers on a 2014 study that combined dermatoscopy and reflectance confocal microscopy to classify distinct subtypes of basal cell carcinoma. This work stands as a seminal piece in the field, establishing a framework for multimodal imaging analysis in dermatological oncology.

This line of work appears to address the clinical need for precise, non-invasive diagnostic tools capable of differentiating between basal cell carcinoma subtypes. By leveraging complementary imaging technologies, the research suggests a novel approach to enhancing diagnostic accuracy without relying solely on histopathological examination.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its substantial citation record, with over 200 citations indicating broad uptake within the scientific community. Notably, nearly 91% of classified citations originate from independent researchers, demonstrating that the work has influenced scholars outside the researcher's immediate institution and collaboration network.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 1

CORE PAPER

Classifying distinct basal cell carcinoma subtype by means of dermatoscopy and reflectance confocal microscopy

2014 · 215 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 167 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 5% of Medicine papers from 2014 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	A Review of Noninvasive Techniques for Skin Cancer Detection in Dermatology. (2020)	Cockerell Dermatopathology, SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University, University of Florida	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
National and Kapodistrian University of Athens	Greece	SCImago #617 · THE 401–500 · QS 390	1
Sapporo Medical University	Japan	SCImago #5216 · THE 1201–1500	1
Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health	United States	—	1
Private practice	Italy	—	1
University of Rzeszow	Poland	SCImago #4564 · THE 1501+	1
SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University	United States	SCImago #4063	1
University of Florida	United States	SCImago #166 · THE =134 · QS =212	1
Aristotle University of Thessaloniki	Greece	SCImago #1021 · THE 801–1000 · QS =485	1
Luigi Vanvitelli University School of Medicine	Italy	—	1
Macerata General Hospital	Italy	—	1
University of Campania	Italy	—	1
Azienda Unità Sanitaria Locale - IRCCS di Reggio Emilia	Italy	—	1
Medical University Hospital Innsbruck	Austria	—	1
University Hospital of Saint-Etienne	France	—	1
Cockerell Dermatopathology	United States	—	1

Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
Italy	4
Greece	3
United States	2
Austria	2
India	1

Country	Citing papers
Belgium	1
Japan	1
Poland	1
Spain	1
France	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	The dermatoscopic universe of basal cell carcinoma	2	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)
Contribution 2	Accuracy of dermoscopic criteria for discriminating superficial from other subtypes of basal cell carcinoma	1	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)
Contribution 3	Classifying distinct basal cell carcinoma subtype by means of dermatoscopy and reflectance confocal microscopy	1	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)