

Citation Evidence Report

EB-1B Petition — Outstanding Professor or Researcher

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

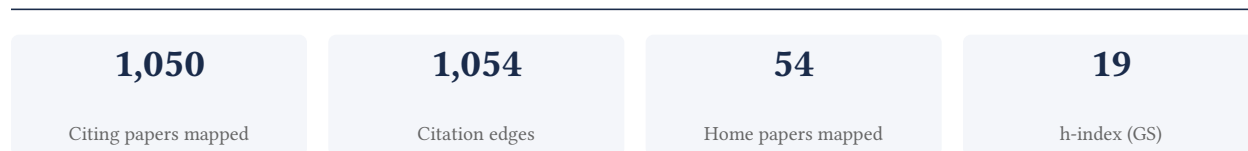
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[Google Scholar profile](#)

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



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.

99.2% independent of 1,034 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	1,026
Self-citation	0
Co-author	6
Same-institution	2

16 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 conducted systematic reviews and meta-analyses evaluating surgical outcomes and adjunctive treatments in photorefractive keratectomy, establishing evidence-based guidelines for wavefront technologies and Mitomycin C application.

CLAIM: The researcher’s contribution centers on synthesizing clinical evidence for photorefractive keratectomy (PRK) procedures, anchored by a 2020 systematic review comparing wavefront-guided and wavefront-optimized techniques published in the Indian Journal of Ophthalmology.

ORIGINALITY: This line of work appears to address the need for consolidated clinical data on PRK refinements. By progressing from a core comparison of wavefront technologies in 2020 to a 2021 meta-analysis on Mitomycin C application across varying myopia levels, the researcher systematically expanded the evidence base for optimizing surgical outcomes and managing complications.

SIGNIFICANCE: The work has garnered significant attention, with the core paper receiving 14 citations and the follow-up study accumulating 25 citations. Notably, 99.2% of the scholar’s total citations originate from independent researchers, indicating that this body of work has been widely adopted and relied upon by the broader ophthalmology community rather than just the researcher’s immediate circle.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 39

CORE PAPER

[Outcome comparison between wavefront-guided and wavefront-optimized photorefractive keratectomy: A systematic review and meta-analysis](#)

2020 · Indian Journal of Ophthalmology 68 (12), 2691-2698, 2020 · 14 citations (GS)

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Surface ablation laser surgery: Bibliometric and visualized analysis from 2004 to 2023 (2024)	Department of Ophthalmology, The Third People’s Hospital of Dalian, Dalian, China	China	—
2	Laser-based refractive surgery techniques to treat myopia in adults. An overview of systematic reviews and meta-analyses. (2022)	Hospital Lluís Alcanyís, Xàtiva, Spain, Ophthalmology Service, Luis Arias Schreiber Military Hospital, Lima, Peru, UISYS. Department of History of Science and Information Science, School of Medicine and Dentistry, University of Valencia, Valencia, Spain	Peru, Spain	Background
3	Postoperative Pain Comparison Between Alcohol-Assisted and Transepithelial Photorefractive Keratectomy Using Nepafenac Treatment: A Novel Study. (2024)	Department of Ophthalmology, Tel Aviv Medical Center and Sackler Faculty of Medicine, Tel Aviv University, 6423906, Tel Aviv, Israel, Department of Ophthalmology, Tel Aviv Medical Center and Sackler Faculty of Medicine, Tel Aviv University, 6423906,	Israel	—

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
		Tel Aviv, Israel., Enaim Medical Center, Tel-Aviv, Israel		
4	Merging Photorefractive Keratectomy and Collagen Crosslinking: An Analysis of Literature and a Guide to Prevalent Protocols (2024)	Chicago Medical School, Rosalind Franklin University, North Chicago, IL;, College of Osteopathic Medicine, Rocky Vista University, Ivins, UT;, Corneal and Refractive Surgery, HDR Vision Research Center, Hoopes Vision, Draper, UT;	United States	—
5	Surface Refractive Surgery Outcomes in Israeli Combat Pilots (2022)	Department of Ophthalmology, Samson Assuta Ashdod Hospital, The Faculty of Health Sciences, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Beer-Sheva 7747629, Israel, Department of Ophthalmology, Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center, Sackler School of Medicine, Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv 69978, Israel, Enaim Refractive Surgery Centers, Jerusalem 9438307, Israel	Israel	—
6	Current Perspectives in Surgical Correction of Myopia (2026)	Centre for Sight eye institute	India	—
7	Cochrane Corner: wavefront-guided laser vision correction (2021)	The Refractive Surgery Service, Moorfields Eye Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, London, UK	United Kingdom	Background
8	Night Vision Disturbances Following Refractive Surgery: Causes, Prevention, and Treatment (2025)	Miguel Hernandez University	Spain	—
9	Photorefractive Keratectomy in Student Naval Aviators: Outcomes of the U.S. Navy Accessioning Study. (2024)	—	—	—
10	Refractive Corneal surgeries. A Review. (2022)	Kerala Journal of Ophthalmology	India	—
11	The Correlation Analysis of Factors Affecting the Effective Optical Zone After SMILE (2025)	The Fourth Affiliated Hospital of Soochow University (Suzhou Dushu Lake Hospital)	China	—
12	HOAs TODAY (2024)	—	—	—
13	Comparing the clinical sequels of trans-photorefractive keratectomy and photorefractive keratectomy in correction of moderate myopia: a randomized clinical ... (2021)	Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences, Tehran University of Medical Sciences	Iran	—

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).

FOLLOW-UP WORK

Mitomycin C application after photorefractive keratectomy in high, moderate, or low myopia: Systematic review and meta-analysis

2021 · Indian journal of ophthalmology 69 (12), 3421-3431, 2021 · 25 citations (GS)

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Refractive results of photorefractive keratectomy comparing trans-PRK and PTK-PRK for correction of myopia and myopic astigmatism. (2024)	Department of Ophthalmology, Heinrich Heine University, Duesseldorf, Germany, Department of Ophthalmology, Heinrich Heine University, Duesseldorf, Germany.	Germany	—
2	Surface ablation laser surgery: Bibliometric and visualized analysis from 2004 to 2023 (2024)	Department of Ophthalmology, The Third People's Hospital of Dalian, Dalian, China	China	Background
3	Postoperative umbilical cord serum eye drops versus intraoperative mitomycin-C in photorefractive keratectomy for moderate myopia (2025)	Department of Ophthalmology, Benha University, Benha, Egypt	Egypt	—
4	Late-Onset Stromal Scarring and Excessive Corneal Flattening After PRK-CXL in Keratoconus Suspects: A Report of Two Contralateral Case Variants (2026)	IVISION	United States	—
5	Complications and their impact on the visual and refractive outcomes of laser in-situ keratomileusis (LASIK) vs small incision lenticule extraction (SMILE) corneal surgeries—a two-armed cohort study (2026)	Department of Ophthalmology, Umm Al-Qura University, Makkah Al Mukarramah, Saudi Arabia	Saudi Arabia	—
6	Effect of Prophylactic Mitomycin C on Corneal Endothelium Following Transepithelial Photorefractive Keratectomy in Myopic Patients (2022)	Department of Ophthalmology, College of Medicine, Qassim University, Qassim, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	Saudi Arabia	Background
7	Knockdown of histone H1-5 gene affects the sensitivity of MRC-5 and HeLa cells to DNA damaging agents (2025)	Yerevan State University	Armenia	—
8	Transepithelial photorefractive keratectomy without mitomycin-C for irregular astigmatism after femtosecond laser-assisted in situ keratomileusisflap complications (2024)	The Second Affiliated Hospital of Anhui Medical University	China	Background
9	Myopia: Unveiling the Efficacy of Treatment Options in Adults and Adolescents (2024)	—	—	—
10	Comparing the effect of Mechanical and Tetracaine-Assisted Epithelial Debridement on Central Corneal Endothelial Cells in PRK (2024)	Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences	Iran	—

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
11	Cirugía refractiva (CR) láser corneal, una comparación entre LASIK y PRK. (2023)	Universidad Católica de Cuenca	Ecuador	—
12	Refractive Surgery Outcomes and Frequency of Complications (2008)	Federal University of São Paulo, Paulista School of Medicine	Brazil	—
13	Seeing the future: Innovations and accessibility in refractive surgery (2024)	Department of Cornea and Anterior Segment, Dr Shroffs Charity Eye Hospital, New Delhi, India	India	—
14	Effect of mitomycin C on the corneal endothelial cells of Saudi patients with myopia after transepithelial photorefractive keratectomy: a two-armed cohort study (2024)	Professor of Ophthalmology , College of Medicine ,Qassim University	Saudi Arabia	—
15	Farmácia Henriques, Porto e Serviços Farmacêuticos do Hospital Lusíadas Porto, Porto (2023)	—	—	—
16	RESULTADOS VISUALES DE LA ABLACIÓN DE SUPERFICIE PARA LA CORRECCIÓN DE MIOPIA, HIPERMETROPÍA Y ASTIGMATISMO (2022)	Clínica Novovisión Madrid, Clínica Novovisión. Madrid, Clínica Novovisión, Madrid, Spain	Spain	—
17	Relatório de Estágio Curricular: Farmácia Henriques (2023)	—	—	—
18	The Impact of AI on the Future of Work: A Comprehensive Analysis (2023)	Global Tech Institute, Peking University, University of Barcelona	China, Spain, United States	—
19	A New Method for the Detection of Circulating Tumor DNA Fragments in Blood (2023)	Medical Research Institute, University of Science	Sri Lanka, Vietnam	—
20	Transepithelial photorefractive keratectomy (2024)	—	—	—
21	Superior keratoconus (2024)	—	—	—
22	Visual and refractive outcomes of photorefractive keratectomy in hyperopia and hyperopic-astigmatism: A systematic review and meta-analysis (2025)	—	—	—
23	Identifying and categorizing compounds that reduce corneal transforming growth factor beta induced protein levels: a scoping review (2022)	—	—	Background
24	КОРРЕКЦИЯ МИОПИИ ВЫСОКОЙ СТЕПЕНИ ПРИ НЕВОЗМОЖНОСТИ ПРИМЕНЕНИЯ РЕФРАКЦИОННО-ЛАЗЕРНОЙ ХИРУРГИИ (2024)	Институт усовершенствования врачей	—	—
25	Post-PRK densitometric and tomographic Berlin ABCD changes in healthy versus suspicious corneas (2025)	Benha University	Egypt	—
26	Efficacy and Safety Profile of Laser-Assisted In-Situ Keratomileusis and Photorefractive	Universitas Tarumanagara	Indonesia	—

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
	Keratotomy for Myopia Correction: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis (2026)			

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 is Influential signal, Valenzuela et al. 2015), or *Background* (a passing mention).

Contribution 2

Claim – Contribution 2

The researcher established a foundational systematic review and meta-analysis defining maternal and neonatal clinical features and pregnancy outcomes associated with COVID-19, synthesizing global evidence up to mid-2021.

The researcher's primary contribution is a comprehensive systematic review and meta-analysis published in AJOG Global Reports in 2022. This work aggregates clinical data to characterize maternal and neonatal features and pregnancy outcomes related to COVID-19, utilizing evidence available up to June 3, 2021. As the core paper stands alone without follow-up publications by the same author in this specific line, it represents a definitive synthesis of the early pandemic period.

This work appears to address the critical need for consolidated, high-level evidence during a rapidly evolving global health crisis. By systematically reviewing and meta-analyzing disparate clinical reports, the researcher provided a structured overview of clinical features and outcomes. This approach likely helped clarify the medical landscape for practitioners and researchers when individual studies were fragmented and emerging quickly.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its substantial citation count of 180. Furthermore, citation analysis reveals that 99.2% of citing papers originate from independent researchers, indicating broad adoption across the global scientific community. This high degree of independent uptake suggests the work has served as a key reference point for subsequent research and clinical understanding of COVID-19 in pregnancy.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 183 · 5 flagged influential by Semantic Scholar

CORE PAPER

[Systematic review and meta-analysis of COVID-19 maternal and neonatal clinical features and pregnancy outcomes up to June 3, 2021](#)

2022 · AJOG Global Reports · 180 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 110 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Medicine papers from 2022 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	The therapeutic age of the neonatal Fc receptor (2023)	Brigham and Women's Hospital	United States	—
2	Clinical course and management of COVID-19 in the era of widespread population immunity (2024)	Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Imperial College London, Montefiore Medical Center	United Kingdom, United States	—
3	Risk Factors of Severe COVID-19: A Review of Host, Viral and Environmental Factors (2023)	Eötvös Loránd University	Hungary	—
4	SARS-CoV-2 infection and COVID-19 vaccination in pregnancy (2022)	Imperial College London	United Kingdom	—

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
5	Lactoferrin: Antimicrobial impacts, genomic guardian, therapeutic uses and clinical significance for humans and animals (2023)	Al-Baha University, Alexandria University, Animal Production Research Institute	Egypt, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Poland	—
6	Estimation of COVID-19 mRNA Vaccine Effectiveness Against Medically Attended COVID-19 in Pregnancy During Periods of Delta and Omicron Variant Predominance in the United States (2022)	Baylor Scott & White Health, CDC, Columbia University Irving Medical Center	United States	Background
7	Effects of intrauterine exposure to SARS-CoV-2 on infants' development: a rapid review and meta-analysis (2023)	Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais	Brazil	Background
8	SARS-CoV-2 immunity in animal models (2024)	—	—	—
9	The effect of long-term COVID-19 infection on maternal and fetal complications: a retrospective cohort study conducted at a single center in China (2024)	Kunming First People's Hospital, The First Affiliated Hospital of Kunming Medical University	China	Methodology
10	COVID-19 vaccination hesitancy in pregnant and breastfeeding women and strategies to increase vaccination compliance: a systematic review and meta-analysis (2022)	Aldo Moro University of Bari	Italy	—
11	SARS CoV-2 infection as a risk factor of preeclampsia and pre-term birth. An interplay between viral infection, pregnancy-specific immune shift and endothelial dysfunction may lead to negative pregnancy outcomes (2023)	Department of Gynecology and Obstetrics, Collegium Medicum, University of Zielona Góra, Poland	Poland	Background
12	Maternal and perinatal health indicators in Brazil over a decade: assessing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and SARS-CoV-2 vaccination through interrupted time series analysis (2024)	Institute of Collective Health of the Federal University of Bahia, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Municipal Health Department	Brazil, United Kingdom	—
13	Long COVID in Children, Adults, and Vulnerable Populations: A Comprehensive Overview for an Integrated Approach (2024)	Buzzi Children's Hospital, IRCCS Istituto Auxologico Italiano, Università degli Studi di Milano	Italy	—
14	Maternal and neonatal safety of COVID-19 vaccination during the peri-pregnancy period: A prospective study (2023)	Beijing Ditan Hospital, Capital Medical University, Capital Medical University, Beijing Ditan Hospital, Maternal and Children's Healthcare Hospital of Beijing Dongcheng District	China	Background
15	Obstetric Intervention and Perinatal Outcomes During the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Pandemic (2023)	Karolinska Institutet, McMaster University, NYU Grossman School of Medicine	Canada, Sweden, United States	—

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
16	Non-Viral RNA Delivery During Pregnancy: Opportunities and Challenges (2023)	Carnegie Mellon University	United States	—
17	Effects of intrauterine growth restriction on embryonic hippocampal dentate gyrus neurogenesis and postnatal critical period of synaptic plasticity that govern learning and memory function (2023)	University of Utah School of Medicine	United States	Influential
18	Infant death prediction using machine learning: A population-based retrospective study (2023)	University of Rochester	United States	—
19	Pregnancy and COVID-19: past, present and future (2023)	CHA Ilsan Medical Center, CHA University School of Medicine, Wonju College of Medicine, Yonsei University	South Korea	Result
20	Risk of preeclampsia in patients with symptomatic COVID-19 infection (2022)	Port-Royal Maternity Hospital	France	—
21	COVID-19 vaccination during pregnancy and adverse perinatal outcomes: a systematic review and meta-analysis (2024)	Qingdao University, Weihai Maternal and Child Health Hospital, Affiliated Weihai Second Municipal Hospital of Qingdao University	China	—
22	Major severe acute respiratory coronavirus-2 (SARS-CoV-2) vaccine-associated adverse effects; benefits outweigh the risks (2022)	Zanjan University of Medical Sciences	Iran	—
23	Effects of SARS-Cov-2 mRNA vaccine on placental histopathology: Comparison of a population of uncomplicated COVID-19 positive pregnant women (2024)	Fondazione Policlinico Universitario A. Gemelli IRCCS, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, University of Florence	Italy	—
24	Global variations in the burden of SARS-CoV-2 infection and its outcomes in pregnant women by geographical region and country's income status: a meta-analysis (2022)	Hospital Universitario Ramón y Cajal, University of Birmingham	Spain, United Kingdom	—
25	COVID-19 during pregnancy could potentially affect placental function (2023)	Gifu University Graduate School of Medicine, Mie University	Japan	—
26	Unmasking the enigma: An in-depth analysis of COVID-19 impact on the pediatric population (2023)	University of Sharjah	United Arab Emirates	—
27	Effect of COVID-19 vaccination on the incidence, lethality and mortality of pregnant and postpartum women (2025)	Curitiba Health Department, Paraná Adventist College, Regional University Hospital of Maringá	Brazil	—
28	An Update on COVID-19-Associated Placental Pathologies (2024)	Medizinische Hochschule Hannover	Germany	Influential
29	Maternal and neonatal outcomes of pregnancies with COVID-19 after medically	Department of Gynecology and Obstetrics, Protestant	Germany	—

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
	assisted reproduction: results from the prospective COVID-19-Related Obstetrical and Neonatal Outcome Study (2022)	Hospital of Bethel Foundation, University Medical School OWL, Bielefeld, Germany, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Klinikum Hanau, Hanau, Germany, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, München Klinik Harlaching, Munich, Germany		
30	Low and inequitable influenza and COVID-19 vaccination coverage among pregnant women in Norway: Nationwide population-based cohort study (2025)	Norwegian Institute of Public Health, OsloMet - Oslo Metropolitan University, University of Oslo	Norway	—

Showing the 30 most-cited of 183 independent citing papers.

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 is Influential signal, Valenzuela et al. 2015), or *Background* (a passing mention).

Citing-text excerpts — how the field used this work

METHODOLOGY The effect of long-term COVID-19 infection on maternal and fetal complications: a retrospective cohort study conducted at a single center in China

“A 2021 meta-analysis involving 42,754 pregnant women revealed a high caesarean section rate of 53.2% among women with acute COVID-19 39.”

RESULT Pregnancy and COVID-19: past, present and future

“Most studies, except one, have reported that COVID-19 infection during pregnancy is associated with a higher rate of preterm birth [27,31-34].”

Contribution 3

Claim — Contribution 3

The researcher established a multinational framework for assessing public knowledge, attitudes, and practices regarding COVID-19, providing a critical baseline for global health communication strategies.

The researcher's contribution centers on the 2021 publication 'KAP-COVIDGLOBAL,' which presents a multinational survey of public knowledge, attitudes, and practices towards COVID-19. This work serves as the foundational piece in this line of inquiry, with no subsequent follow-up papers by the same researcher identified in the provided data. The title indicates a comprehensive effort to map the determinants of public response across different nations during the pandemic.

This line of work appears to address the urgent need for standardized, cross-national data on how populations understood and reacted to the COVID-19 crisis. By focusing on knowledge, attitudes, and practices, the research likely filled a gap in understanding the behavioral and cognitive drivers of public health compliance on a global scale. The multinational scope suggests an original approach to comparing diverse cultural and socioeconomic contexts.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its citation record, with 95 citations indicating substantial uptake by the scientific community. Notably, 99.2% of the citing papers originate from independent researchers, demonstrating that the work has been widely adopted and utilized by scholars outside the researcher's immediate network. This high degree of independent citation underscores the paper's role as a key reference point in the field of global public health and pandemic response.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 95 · 1 flagged influential by Semantic Scholar

■ CORE PAPER

KAP-COVIDGLOBAL: a multinational survey of the levels and determinants of public knowledge, attitudes and practices towards COVID-19

2021 · 95 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 78 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 5% of Medicine papers from 2021 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Global epidemiology of COVID-19 knowledge, attitude and practice: a systematic review and meta-analysis (2021)	Bangladesh University of Health Sciences, Monash University	Australia, Bangladesh	—
2	Improving knowledge, attitudes and practice to prevent COVID-19 transmission in healthcare workers and the public in Thailand (2021)	Bamrasnaradura Infectious Diseases Institute, Ministry of Public Health	Thailand	—
3	Parents' or Guardians' Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices in the Prevention and Management of Childhood Myopia (2024)	The First Affiliated Hospital of Soochow University	China	—
4	Enhancing the effectiveness of infectious disease health education for children and adolescents in China: a national multicenter school-based trial (2023)	Ningxia Medical University, Peking University	China	Background
5	Association of socio-economic deprivation with COVID-19 incidence and fatality during the first wave of the pandemic in Italy: lessons learned from a local register-based study (2023)	Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Nazionale dei Tumori, Policlinico Foggia Hospital and University of Foggia	Italy	—
6	Call for Decision Support for High-Alert Medication Administration Among Pediatric Nurses: Findings From a Large, Multicenter, Cross-Sectional Survey in China (2022)	Children's Hospital, Fudan University, Fudan University, Shanghai Children's Medical Center	China	—
7	A Cross-Sectional Study of Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices concerning COVID-19 Outbreaks in the General Population in Malang District, Indonesia (2022)	Universitas Brawijaya	Indonesia	—
8	Tiered restrictions for COVID-19 in England: knowledge, motivation and self-reported behaviour (2022)	King's College London, UK Health Security Agency, University College London	United Kingdom	—
9	Medical students in Karachi and COVID-19: Myths and facts (2022)	United Medical & Dental College	Pakistan	—
10	A multi-country survey of the socio-demographic factors associated with adherence to COVID-19 preventive measures during the first wave of the COVID-19 pandemic (2023)	Ain Shams University, Alexandria University, Applied Science Private University	Argentina, Egypt, Ethiopia	Background
11	The nature of science: The fundamental role of natural history in ecology, evolution, conservation, and education (2023)	Auburn University, California Science Center, Dalhousie University	Brazil, Canada, United Kingdom	—

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
12	Exploring knowledge, attitudes, and practices towards artificial intelligence among health professions' students in Jordan. (2023)	Al Ain University, Al-Zaytoonah University of Jordan, King Saud University	Jordan, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates	Methodology
13	COVID-19 related knowledge, attitudes, and practices in Indian Population: An online national cross-sectional survey. (2022)	ICMR-National Institute of Malaria Research	India	—
14	Menstrual changes following COVID-19 infection: A cross-sectional study from Jordan and Iraq. (2022)	Applied Science Private University, The Hashemite University, University of Al-Hodeida	Jordan, Yemen	Background
15	Assessing the Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices of COVID-19 among Quarantine Hotel Workers in China (2021)	College of Modern Management, Yango University, Tamkang University, Yango University	China, Taiwan	—
16	Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices Regarding "New Normal" Guidelines and Quality of Life Among Thai People During the COVID-19 Outbreak: An Online Cross-Sectional Survey (2022)	Mahidol-Oxford Tropical Medicine Research Unit, Mahidol University, Princess Srisavangavadhana College of Medicine, Chulabhorn Royal Academy	Thailand	—
17	Knowledge, attitudes and practices towards COVID-19: Community survey in southern Ethiopia. (2023)	Hawassa Health Science College, Hawassa University, Sidama Regional Health Bureau	Ethiopia	—
18	The role of parental health knowledge and practices in mitigating obesity risks among preschool children (2025)	Monash University Malaysia, Shihezi University	China, Malaysia	—
19	Knowledge, Attitude, and Practices Among the General Population During the Later Stage of the COVID-19 Pandemic in Malaysia: A Cross-Sectional Study. (2022)	Faculty of Medicine of University Technology MARA, University Malaysia Sarawak, University of Malaya	Malaysia	Background
20	Face mask ownership/utilisation and COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy amongst patients recovering from COVID-19 in Cameroon: A cross-sectional study. (2023)	Atlantic Medical Foundation, Cameroon Baptist Convention Health Services, District Health Services	Cameroon	—
21	A Peer-Based Educational Intervention Effects on SARS-CoV-2 Knowledge and Attitudes among Polish High-School Students (2021)	University of Zielona Gora, West Pomeranian Institute of Technology	Poland	Result
22	Assessing Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices (KAP) related to green pharmacy among community and hospital pharmacists in Jordan. (2026)	University of Petra, University of Sharjah	Jordan, United Arab Emirates	—
23	Exploring Pakistani Physicians' Knowledge and Practices Regarding High Alert Medications: Findings and Implications (2022)	DHQ Teaching Hospital, District Headquarter (DHQ) Hospital, District Headquarter Hospital (DHQ)	Malaysia, Pakistan	Background

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
24	Association between COVID-19 and vaccination on menstrual cycle. (2024)	Oregon Health & Science University-Portland State University, University of Campinas Faculty of Medical Sciences	Brazil, United States	Background
25	Prospective Medicinal Plants and Their Phytochemicals Shielding Autoimmune and Cancer Patients Against the SARS-CoV-2 Pandemic: A Special Focus on Matcha (2022)	German University in Cairo	Egypt	—
26	COVID-19 Exposures, Related Stressors, and the Health and Well-Being of U.S. Parents (2026)	Ball State University, The Ohio State University, University of Nebraska–Lincoln	United States	—
27	Knowledge, attitude and practices regarding immunization among parents with children in the age group 12 to 24 months (2023)	Sri Ramachandra Institute of Higher Education and Research	India	—
28	Knowledge and preventive practices regarding COVID-19 disease among Ukrainian refugees in Poland (2024)	University of Zielona Gora, Collegium Medicum	Poland	—
29	Exploring factors affecting the adoption and continuance usage of drone in healthcare: The role of the environment. (2023)	Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Sunyani Technical University	Ghana	Background
30	Challenges and lessons learned in conducting international paramedic research: A scholarly perspective (2026)	NHS Education for Scotland, Renfrew County and District Health Unit, The Paramedic Foundation	Australia, Canada, United Kingdom	—

Showing the 30 most-cited of 95 independent citing papers.

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Citing-text excerpts — how the field used this work

METHODOLOGY Exploring knowledge, attitudes, and practices towards artificial intelligence among health professions' students in Jordan.

“There is currently little consensus on what and how to teach AI in medical education [22].”

RESULT A Peer-Based Educational Intervention Effects on SARS-CoV-2 Knowledge and Attitudes among Polish High-School Students

“However, other authors reported better knowledge among female participants [25,26,32,36,37].”

D. Citing-Institution Prestige & Geography

Top citing institutions

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
Tehran University of Medical Sciences	Iran	SCImago #701 · THE 501–600	10
Universidade Federal do Amazonas	Brazil	SCImago #7020	6
Tabriz University of Medical Sciences	Iran	SCImago #2518 · THE 601–800	6

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences	Iran	THE 601–800	6
University of Sharjah	United Arab Emirates	SCImago #2816 · THE 301–350 · QS =328	5
Universidad de Ciencias Médicas de Granma	Cuba	—	5
JSS Medical College, JSS Academy of Higher Education and Research	India	—	4
CEDAR Superspeciality Healthcare	India	—	4
Khaliajuri Upazila Health Complex	Bangladesh	—	4
NRS Medical College	India	—	4
University College London	United Kingdom	SCImago #30	4
Monash University	Australia	THE =58 · QS =36	4
Mayo Clinic	United States	SCImago #88	4
Mymensingh Medical College	Bangladesh	—	4
Nobel Medical College and Teaching Hospital	Nepal	—	4

Geographic distribution of citing authors

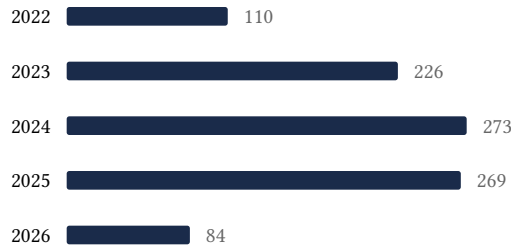
Country	Citing papers
United States	162
China	106
India	75
United Kingdom	73
Iran	48
Italy	41
Brazil	40
Germany	32
Canada	32
Egypt	29
Saudi Arabia	26
Spain	24

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.

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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	Outcome comparison between wavefront-guided and wavefront-optimized photorefractive keratectomy: A systematic review and meta-analysis	39	8 CFR 204.5(i)(3) – Outstanding Researcher

Contribution	Core paper	Indep. cites	Supports
Contribution 2	Systematic review and meta-analysis of COVID-19 maternal and neonatal clinical features and pregnancy outcomes up to June 3, 2021	183	8 CFR 204.5(i)(3) – Outstanding Researcher
Contribution 3	KAP-COVIDGLOBAL: a multinational survey of the levels and determinants of public knowledge, attitudes and practices towards COVID-19	95	8 CFR 204.5(i)(3) – Outstanding Researcher