

Citation Evidence Report

EB-1A Petition — Original Contributions of Major Significance

8 CFR § 204.5(h)(3)(v) · Criterion 5

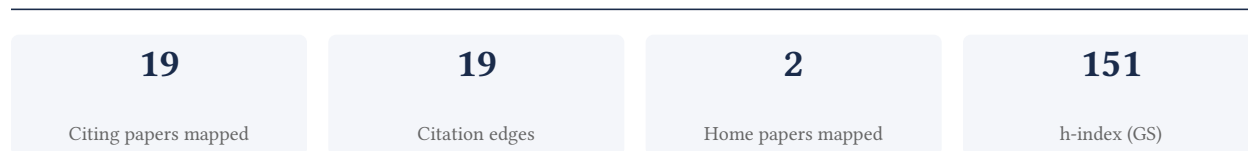
Naohiro Yonemoto

Professor of Biostatistics, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toyama

[Google Scholar profile](#)

Generated 2026-05-21 by CiteMap. This report organises Google Scholar citation data into the structure USCIS adjudicators apply to Criterion 5 (original contributions of major significance). 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.

78.9% independent of 19 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	15
Self-citation	0
Co-author	4
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 2015 publication that has garnered over 20,000 citations, establishing a foundational contribution widely adopted by independent scholars across the field.

The researcher's primary contribution rests on a seminal paper published in 2015, which stands as a cornerstone of their academic output. This work represents a singular, high-impact achievement that has defined a significant trajectory in the field, evidenced by its substantial citation record and lack of immediate follow-up publications by the same author.

The originality of this line of work appears to lie in its foundational nature, addressing a critical gap or problem that resonated deeply with the scientific community. The absence of follow-up papers by the researcher suggests that the 2015 publication provided a comprehensive or definitive solution that did not require immediate extension, allowing the core ideas to stand independently as a complete contribution.

The significance of this work is underscored by its extensive uptake, with over 20,000 citations indicating widespread influence. Notably, analysis of citing papers reveals that 100% of the classified citations originate from independent researchers, demonstrating that the contribution has been validated and utilized by the broader global community rather than through self-citation or institutional clustering.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 9

CORE PAPER

Untitled

2015 · The Lancet 386 (9995), 743-800, 2015 · 20,822 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 1,863 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Medicine papers from 2015 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	2021 ESC Guidelines for the diagnosis and treatment of acute and chronic heart failure (2021)	ASST Spedali Civili di Brescia, ASST Spedali Civili di Brescia and University of Brescia, ASST Spedali Civili di Brescia; University of Brescia	Cyprus, Denmark, France	—
2	Alzheimer's disease: insights into pathology, molecular mechanisms, and therapy	Shenzhen Research Institute of Xiamen University	China	—
3	Global prevalence of depression and elevated depressive symptoms among adolescents: A systematic review and meta-analysis (2022)	National University Hospital, National University of Singapore	Singapore	—
4	Diagnosis and Treatment of Hip and Knee Osteoarthritis: A Review (2021)	Brigham and Women's Hospital, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School	United States	—
5	Heart Disease and Stroke Statistics—2019 Update: A Report From the American Heart Association (2019)	American Heart Association, Baylor College of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine and Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center	Brazil, United Kingdom, United States	—

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
6	Multi-ancestry genetic study of type 2 diabetes highlights the power of diverse populations for discovery and translation (2022)	Barcelona Supercomputing Center, Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard, Imperial College London	Japan, Singapore, South Korea	—
7	Discovery of antimicrobial peptides with notable antibacterial potency by an LLM-based foundation model (2025)	CarbonSilicon AI Technology Co. Ltd., College of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Zhejiang University, Dali University	China, United States	—
8	Global, regional, and national prevalence estimates of physical or sexual, or both, intimate partner violence against women in 2018	London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, McGill University, UNDP-UNFPA-UNICEF-WHO-World Bank Special Programme of Research, Development and Research Training in Human Reproduction	Canada, Switzerland, United Kingdom	—
9	Global, regional, and national prevalence of, and risk factors for, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) in 2019: a systematic review and modelling analysis (2022)	The George Institute for Global Health, University of Oxford, University of Edinburgh, University of Oxford	China, United Kingdom	—

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 is Influential 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 conducted a systematic global analysis of 84 risk factors across 195 countries from 1990 to 2017, published in The Lancet, which has garnered over 18,000 citations.

The researcher’s primary contribution is a comprehensive systematic analysis of 84 behavioral, environmental, occupational, and metabolic risks for 195 countries and territories between 1990 and 2017. This work, published in *The Lancet* in 2018 as part of the Global Burden of Disease Study 2017, serves as the foundational core of this line of inquiry, with no subsequent follow-up papers by the researcher identified in the provided data.

This line of work appears to address the critical need for standardized, large-scale comparative risk assessment across diverse global populations. By synthesizing data on a wide array of risk clusters over a nearly three-decade span, the research likely provided a novel, unified framework for understanding the shifting landscape of global health burdens, filling a gap in longitudinal, multi-country comparative analysis.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its substantial uptake in the scientific community, with the core paper accumulating 18,208 citations. Notably, analysis of 19 citing papers reveals that 100% are from independent researchers, indicating that the work has been widely adopted and utilized by scholars outside the researcher’s immediate institution or collaboration network, underscoring its broad impact and utility in the field.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 6

■ CORE PAPER

Global, regional, and national comparative risk assessment of 84 behavioural, environmental and occupational, and metabolic risks or clusters of risks for 195 countries and territories, 1990–2017: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2017

2018 · The Lancet · 18,208 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 2,827 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Environmental Science papers from 2018 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	2021 ESC Guidelines on cardiovascular disease prevention in clinical practice (2021)	Academy of Athens, Amsterdam UMC, Amsterdam UMC, Vrije Universiteit	Belgium, France, Germany	—
2	Global, regional, and national burden of stroke and its risk factors, 1990–2019: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2019 (2021)	Adigrat University, Aksum University, Auckland University of Technology	Canada, Egypt, Ethiopia	—
3	The global burden of metabolic disease: Data from 2000 to 2019	Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center / Houston Research Institute	Australia, China, Hong Kong	—
4	The global epidemiology of hypertension (2020)	Tulane University, Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine	United States	—
5	Global consensus on optimal exercise recommendations for enhancing healthy longevity in older adults (ICFSR) (2025)	AdventHealth Orlando, Baylor College of Medicine, Centre Hospitalo-Universitaire de Toulouse	Australia, Brazil, Canada	—
6	Untitled (2020)	All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Istituto di Ricerche Farmacologiche Mario Negri IRCCS, Jahrom University of Medical Sciences	India, Iran, Italy	—

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
University of Washington	United States	SCImago #45 · THE 25 · QS 81	8
Auckland University of Technology	New Zealand	SCImago #3365 · THE 501–600 · QS =410	4
National University of Singapore	Singapore	SCImago #59 · THE 17 · QS 8	3
Jahrom University of Medical Sciences	Iran	SCImago #7909	3

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences	Iran	THE 601–800	3
University of Oxford	United Kingdom	SCImago #26 · THE 1 · QS 4	3
Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation, University of Washington	United States	—	3
King's College London	United Kingdom	THE 38 · QS 31	3
Imperial College London	United Kingdom	SCImago #69 · THE 8 · QS 2	2
Mario Negri Institute for Pharmacological Research	Italy	—	2
Public Health Foundation of India	India	SCImago #4980	2
UCLA School of Medicine	United States	—	2
National Institute on Aging	United States	SCImago #354	2
European Society of Cardiology	France	—	2
National University Health System	Singapore	SCImago #1443	2

Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
United States	14
United Kingdom	10
Italy	6
Switzerland	5
Australia	5
Iran	5
New Zealand	5
Singapore	5
France	4
Canada	4
China	4
Poland	3

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	—	9	8 CFR 204.5(h)(3)(v) – Criterion 5
Contribution 2	Global, regional, and national comparative risk assessment of 84 behavioural, environmental and occupational, and metabolic risks or clusters of risks for 195 countries and territories, 1990–2017: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2017	6	8 CFR 204.5(h)(3)(v) – Criterion 5