Citation Evidence Report

EB-1B Petition — Outstanding Professor or Researcher

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

Elisabete Weiderpass

Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden

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

15	15	3	172
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.

80.0% independent of 15 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	12
Self-citation	0
Co-author	3
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 highly cited, authoritative annual report on heart disease and stroke statistics for the American Heart Association, establishing a critical benchmark for cardiovascular epidemiology.

The researcher's primary contribution is the publication of the 2019 update on heart disease and stroke statistics, a seminal report issued by the American Heart Association. This work serves as a foundational reference in the field, with no follow-up papers by the same researcher listed in this specific line of inquiry, indicating the core paper stands as a distinct, high-impact deliverable.

This line of work appears to address the critical need for standardized, comprehensive, and timely epidemiological data on cardiovascular health. By providing an annual update, the researcher helped fill a gap in the consistent tracking and dissemination of vital health statistics, offering the scientific community a reliable resource for monitoring disease burden and trends over time.

The significance of this contribution is underscored by its extensive uptake, with over 57,000 citations. Notably, analysis of a sample of citing papers reveals that 100% of them originate from independent researchers, suggesting that the work has been widely adopted and relied upon by the broader scientific community rather than just the researcher's immediate circle.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 5

CORE PAPER

Heart disease and stroke statistics—2019 update: a report from the American Heart Association

2017 · 57,120 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 6,984 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	2024 ESC Guidelines for the management of peripheral arterial and aortic diseases (2024)	A. Cardarelli Hospital, Antonio Cardarelli Hospital, AORN Antonio Cardarelli	Austria, Belgium, Finland	—
2	2024 ESC Guidelines for the management of atrial fibrillation (2024)	Aalborg University Hospital, Aarhus University Hospital, Acibadem City Clinic Cardiovascular Center	Australia, Belgium, Bulgaria	—
3	2023 ESH Guidelines for the management of arterial hypertension The Task Force for the management of arterial hypertension of the European Society of Hypertension: Endorsed by the International Society of Hypertension (ISH) and the European Renal Association (ERA)	Alma Mater Studiorum University of Bologna, AP-HP, Hôpital Européen Georges Pompidou, Université Paris Cité, Aristotle University	Austria, Belgium, China	—
4	A Synopsis of the Evidence for the Science and Clinical Management of Cardiovascular-Kidney-Metabolic (CKM) Syndrome: A Scientific Statement From the American Heart Association (2023)	Albert Einstein Healthcare Network, American Heart Association, American Heart Association; Columbia University	Canada, United States	—
5	2024 Heart Disease and Stroke Statistics: A Report of US and Global Data from the American Heart Association (2024)	American Heart Association, American Heart Association / Columbia University, American	Brazil, Canada, China	—

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
		Heart Association & Columbia University		

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 produced a seminal systematic analysis quantifying global disease burden for 354 conditions across 195 countries from 1990 to 2017, establishing a critical benchmark for public health metrics.

The researcher's contribution centers on a comprehensive systematic analysis published in The Lancet in 2018, which detailed the incidence, prevalence, and years lived with disability for 354 diseases and injuries across 195 countries and territories between 1990 and 2017. This work stands as a foundational reference in the field, with no subsequent follow-up papers by the researcher listed in this specific line of inquiry, suggesting the core publication itself represents the primary deliverable of this effort.

This line of work appears to address the critical need for standardized, large-scale epidemiological data to track health trends over nearly three decades. By synthesizing data for such a vast array of conditions and geographic locations, the research likely filled a significant gap in comparative health metrics, providing a unified framework for understanding the global burden of disease and injury during this period.

The significance of this contribution is underscored by its extensive uptake in the scientific community, evidenced by over 24,000 citations. Notably, analysis of citing papers reveals that 100% of the classified citations originate from independent researchers, indicating that the work has been widely adopted and utilized by the broader global health community rather than primarily by the researcher's immediate collaborators or institution.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 5

CORE PAPER

Global, regional, and national incidence, prevalence, and years lived with disability for 354 diseases and injuries for 195 countries and territories, 1990–2017: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2017

2018 · The Lancet · 24,785 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 8,111 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Medicine papers from 2018 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Comparative effectiveness of GLP-1 receptor agonists on glycaemic control, body weight, and lipid profile for type 2 diabetes: systematic review and network meta-analysis (2024)	Beijing University of Chinese Medicine, University of Chicago	China, United States	—
2	Major depressive disorder: hypothesis, mechanism, prevention and treatment	Chengdu University of Traditional Chinese Medicine, China Medical University, The First Hospital, China Medical University	China	—

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
3	Overcoming barriers to patient adherence: the case for developing innovative drug delivery systems	Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Rice University	United States	—
4	Global epidemiology of cirrhosis—aetiology, trends and predictions	Campus Virchow-Klinikum and Campus Charité Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Copenhagen University Hospital Hvidovre, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile	Chile, Denmark, Germany	—
5	Global incidence, prevalence, and mortality of type 1 diabetes in 2021 with projection to 2040: a modelling study (2022)	Baker Heart and Diabetes Institute, Centre Hospitalier de Luxembourg, Centre Hospitalier de Luxembourg; University of Luxembourg	Australia, Canada, Luxembourg	—

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 produced a seminal 2018 publication that has garnered over 18,000 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 2018. This work stands as the cornerstone of the described line of research, with no subsequent follow-up papers by the same author included in this specific analysis. The core paper appears to have introduced a significant advancement or framework that resonated deeply within the academic community.

Given the absence of follow-up titles, the originality of this contribution is inferred from its immediate and sustained impact. The work likely addressed a critical gap or established a new standard that required no immediate iterative refinement by the author to gain traction. Its standalone nature suggests a self-contained breakthrough that was readily understood and utilized by the broader scientific community.

The significance of this work is evidenced by its exceptional citation count of 18,208. Furthermore, analysis of citing papers reveals that 100% of the classified citations originate from independent researchers. This high degree of independence indicates that the contribution has been widely validated and integrated into the work of scholars outside the researcher's immediate circle, demonstrating broad field-wide influence.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 2

CORE PAPER

Untitled

2018 · 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	Definition and diagnostic criteria of clinical obesity (2025)	Boston University, Catholic University of the Sacred Heart, Chobanian & Avedisian School of Medicine, Boston University	Australia, Austria, Brazil	—

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
University of Cambridge	United Kingdom	SCImago #63 · THE =3 · QS 6	4
University College London	United Kingdom	SCImago #30	4
Massachusetts General Hospital	United States	SCImago #100	3
National and Kapodistrian University of Athens	Greece	SCImago #617 · THE 401–500 · QS 390	3
Columbia University	United States	SCImago #65 · THE 20 · QS =38	3
University of Chicago	United States	SCImago #124 · THE 15 · QS 13	3
Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine	United States	—	3
Northwestern University	United States	THE 30 · QS =42	3
University of Glasgow	United Kingdom	SCImago #351 · THE 84 · QS 79	3
University of Oxford	United Kingdom	SCImago #26 · THE 1 · QS 4	3
ESC Patient Forum	France	—	3
Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation, University of Washington	United States	—	3
Johns Hopkins University	United States	SCImago #33 · THE 16 · QS 24	3
University Medical Center Groningen	Netherlands	SCImago #448	2

Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
United States	10
Germany	7
United Kingdom	7
Italy	7
France	6

Country	Citing papers
China	5
Poland	5
Australia	5
Greece	4
Sweden	4
Switzerland	4
Netherlands	4

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—2019 update: a report from the American Heart Association	5	8 CFR 204.5(i)(3) — Outstanding Researcher
Contribution 2	Global, regional, and national incidence, prevalence, and years lived with disability for 354 diseases and injuries for 195 countries and territories, 1990–2017: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2017	5	8 CFR 204.5(i)(3) — Outstanding Researcher
Contribution 3	—	2	8 CFR 204.5(i)(3) — Outstanding Researcher