

# Citation Evidence Report

EB-1A Petition — Original Contributions of Major Significance

8 CFR § 204.5(h)(3)(v) · Criterion 5

## Michael S. Kobor

Professor and Canada Research Chair in Social Epigenetics, University of British Columbia

[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

4	4	1	94
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.

**100.0% independent** of 4 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	4
Self-citation	0
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 foundational profiles of infant gut microbiota linked to delivery mode and diet, a seminal contribution widely adopted by independent researchers.*

The researcher's core contribution rests on a 2013 study published in the Canadian Medical Association Journal, which examined gut microbiota profiles in healthy Canadian infants relative to delivery mode and diet. This work appears to address a critical gap in understanding early-life microbial development by linking specific clinical and dietary factors to microbiome composition. The titles suggest a focus on establishing baseline data for infant health, providing a reference point for subsequent studies in pediatric microbiology. The significance of this line of work is evidenced by its high citation count, indicating broad uptake within the scientific community. Furthermore, the fact that all classified citations originate from independent researchers underscores the work's objective impact and its role as a standard reference outside the researcher's immediate network.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 4

#### CORE PAPER

### [Gut microbiota of healthy Canadian infants: profiles by mode of delivery and infant diet at 4 months](#)

2013 · CMAJ (Canadian Medical Association Journal) · 1,309 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 893 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Medicine papers from 2013 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	<a href="#">The Microbiota-Gut-Brain Axis</a> (2019)	APC Microbiome Ireland, University College Cork	Ireland	—
2	<a href="#">Akkermansia muciniphila: biology, microbial ecology, host interactions and therapeutic potential</a> (2024)	Wageningen University and Research	Netherlands	—
3	<a href="#">Environment dominates over host genetics in shaping human gut microbiota</a> (2018)	Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, University of Groningen, University Medical Center Groningen	Israel, Netherlands	—
4	<a href="#">Anti-Inflammatory and Immunomodulatory Effects of Probiotics in Gut Inflammation: A Door to the Body</a> (2021)	University of Bari Aldo Moro	Italy	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).

## D. Citing-Institution Prestige & Geography

### Top citing institutions

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
Wageningen University and Research	Netherlands	THE 66 · QS =153	1

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
Weizmann Institute of Science	Israel	SCImago #739	1
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem	Israel	SCImago #1097 · THE 251–300 · QS =240	1
University of Bari Aldo Moro	Italy	THE 601–800 · QS 801-850	1
Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center	Israel	SCImago #2630	1
University of Groningen, University Medical Center Groningen	Netherlands	—	1
APC Microbiome Ireland, University College Cork	Ireland	—	1

### Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
Netherlands	2
Ireland	1
Israel	1
Italy	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.

## 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

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Cross-reference of each contribution to the regulatory criterion it supports. Counsel should map these to the petition’s exhibit numbers.

<b>Contribution</b>	<b>Core paper</b>	<b>Indep. cites</b>	<b>Supports</b>
Contribution 1	Gut microbiota of healthy Canadian infants: profiles by mode of delivery and infant diet at 4 months	4	8 CFR 204.5(h)(3)(v) – Criterion 5