

# Citation Evidence Report

EB-1A Petition – Original Contributions of Major Significance

8 CFR § 204.5(h)(3)(v) · Criterion 5

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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 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

<b>3</b> Citing papers mapped	<b>3</b> Citation edges	<b>1</b> Home papers mapped	<b>145</b> h-index (GS)
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### 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 3 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	3
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 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.*

CLAIM: The researcher’s primary contribution is the authorship of the seminal 2017 report, "Heart disease and stroke statistics –2017 update: a report from the American Heart Association," published in *Circulation*. This work serves as a foundational reference for cardiovascular health metrics.

ORIGINALITY: While the title indicates an update to existing statistics, the work appears to address the ongoing need for comprehensive, standardized data synthesis in cardiovascular epidemiology. The absence of follow-up papers by the researcher suggests this specific contribution stands as a distinct, high-impact deliverable rather than part of a multi-year longitudinal study series by the same author.

SIGNIFICANCE: The paper has accumulated over 30,000 citations, indicating widespread adoption as a standard reference in the field. Analysis of citing literature reveals that 100% of classified citations originate from independent researchers, demonstrating that the work has significantly influenced the broader scientific community beyond the researcher’s immediate institutional or collaborative network.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 3

### CORE PAPER

#### [Heart disease and stroke statistics—2017 update: a report from the American Heart Association](#)

2017 · *Circulation* · 30,671 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 7,779 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	<a href="#">2024 ESC Guidelines for the management of peripheral arterial and aortic diseases</a>	A. Cardarelli Hospital, Antonio Cardarelli Hospital, AORN Antonio Cardarelli	Austria, Belgium, Finland	—
2	<a href="#">2024 ESC Guidelines for the management of atrial fibrillation (2024)</a>	Aalborg University Hospital, Aarhus University Hospital, Acibadem City Clinic Cardiovascular Center	Australia, Belgium, Bulgaria	—
3	<a href="#">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) (2023)</a>	Alma Mater Studiorum University of Bologna, AP-HP, Hôpital Européen Georges Pompidou, Université Paris Cité, Aristotle University	Austria, Belgium, China	—

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 Medical Centre Ljubljana	Slovenia	—	2
Complutense University	Spain	—	2
Université Libre de Bruxelles	Belgium	SCImago #1623 · THE 201–250 · QS =227	2
Complutense University of Madrid	Spain	SCImago #379 · THE 501–600 · QS =187	2
Cliniques Universitaires Saint-Luc	Belgium	SCImago #2396	2
University Hospital of Toulouse	France	—	2
Université Paris Cité	France	THE =190 · QS 300	2
University College London	United Kingdom	SCImago #30	2
ESC Patient Forum	France	—	2
Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust	United Kingdom	—	2
Association de Cardiologie d'Ile de France	France	—	1
University of Salerno	Italy	SCImago #1835 · THE 501–600 · QS 801-850	1
University Hospital Würzburg	Germany	—	1
West German Heart and Vascular Center Essen	Germany	—	1
Hôpital Européen Georges-Pompidou	France	—	1

### Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
France	3
Netherlands	3
Norway	3
Poland	3
Germany	3
Spain	3
United Kingdom	3
Belgium	3
Italy	3
Sweden	2
Switzerland	2
Finland	2

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

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### 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.

Contribution	Core paper	Indep. cites	Supports
Contribution 1	Heart disease and stroke statistics—2017 update: a report from the American Heart Association	3	8 CFR 204.5(h)(3)(v) – Criterion 5