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

26	29	3	154
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 20 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	16
Self-citation	0
Co-author	4
Same-institution	0

6 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 standardized GRADE evidence profiles and summary of findings tables, creating a foundational framework for transparent clinical evidence presentation.

The researcher's core contribution rests on the 2011 paper 'GRADE guidelines: 1. Introduction—GRADE evidence profiles and summary of findings tables,' published in the Journal of Clinical Epidemiology. This work appears to have introduced a structured approach to presenting clinical evidence, specifically focusing on evidence profiles and summary tables.

This line of work addresses the need for standardized, transparent reporting in clinical guidelines. By defining these specific components, the researcher provided a novel methodological tool that likely improved the clarity and consistency of evidence synthesis, distinguishing it from prior, less structured approaches.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its substantial citation count of 11,313. Furthermore, analysis of citing papers reveals that 85.0% originate from independent researchers, indicating broad adoption across the global scientific community rather than isolated institutional use.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 6 · **1 flagged influential by Semantic Scholar**

CORE PAPER

GRADE guidelines: 1. Introduction—GRADE evidence profiles and summary of findings tables

2011 · Journal of Clinical Epidemiology · 11,313 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 8,774 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Medicine papers from 2011 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Pulmonary Rehabilitation for Adults with Chronic Respiratory Disease: An Official American Thoracic Society Clinical Practice Guideline (2023)	Azusa Pacific University, Baystate Health and UMass Chan Medical School, Dorney-Koppel Foundation	Australia, Belgium, Canada	—
2	An Update on Management of Adult Patients with Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome: An Official American Thoracic Society Clinical Practice Guideline (2024)	Aix-Marseille University, Albert Einstein College of Medicine and Montefiore Medical Center, ARDS Foundation	Australia, Canada, France	Background
3	Screening for lung cancer: 2023 guideline update from the American Cancer Society (2023)	American Cancer Society, Boston University Chobanian and Avedisian School of Medicine, Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health	United States	—
4	Ultra-processed food exposure and adverse health outcomes: umbrella review of epidemiological meta-analyses (2024)	Deakin University, Dublin City University, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health	Australia, France, Ireland	**Influential**
5	U.S. Medical Eligibility Criteria for Contraceptive Use, 2024 (2024)	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	United States	—
6	Standards of Care for the Health of Transgender and Gender Diverse People, Version 8 (2022)	Amsterdam UMC Location Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Amsterdam UMC, Vrije Uni-	Australia, Austria, Belgium	—

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
		versiteit Amsterdam, Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago		

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 established the PRISMA 2020 statement, a widely adopted updated guideline for reporting systematic reviews, significantly standardizing transparency and completeness in medical research synthesis.

The researcher's primary contribution is the development of the PRISMA 2020 statement, published in 2021 across major journals including BMJ and PLOS Medicine. This work serves as the foundational core of this line of research, with no subsequent follow-up papers by the same researcher identified in the provided data. The titles indicate that this work addresses the critical need for updated, standardized guidelines for reporting systematic reviews, aiming to improve the clarity and reproducibility of evidence synthesis in clinical and epidemiological research. The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its extensive uptake, with over 154,000 citations. Furthermore, analysis of citing literature reveals that 85% of citations originate from independent researchers, demonstrating that the PRISMA 2020 statement has become a widely accepted standard adopted by the broader scientific community rather than merely reflecting internal or collaborative usage.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 7

CORE PAPER

The PRISMA 2020 statement: an updated guideline for reporting systematic reviews

2021 · BMJ, PLOS Medicine, Journal of Clinical Epidemiology, Systematic Reviews, and International Journal of Surgery · 154,444 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 15,986 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Medicine papers from 2021 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	A Review on Large Language Models: Architectures, Applications, Taxonomies, Open Issues and Challenges (2024)	Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET), Charles Darwin University, Lappeenranta-Lahti University of Technology	Australia, Bangladesh, Finland	—
2	A meta systematic review of artificial intelligence in higher education: A call for increased ethics, collaboration, and rigour	Halmstad University, Harvard Medical School, The University of Queensland	Australia, Sweden, United Kingdom	—
3	Ultra-processed food exposure and adverse health outcomes: umbrella review of epidemiological meta-analyses (2024)	Deakin University, Dublin City University, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health	Australia, France, Ireland	—
4	When combinations of humans and AI are useful: A systematic review and meta-analysis	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	United States	—
5	Global Burden of Cardiovascular Diseases and Risks, 1990-2022 (2023)	Bayero University Kano, Cairo University, Cleveland Clinic	Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran	—

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
6	Artificial intelligence in teaching and teacher professional development: A systematic review	—	—	—
7	Burden of disease scenarios for 204 countries and territories, 2022–2050: a forecasting analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2021 (2024)	Addis Ababa University, Ain Shams University, Aleta Wondo Hospital	Australia, Egypt, Ethiopia	—

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 developed the PRISMA-ScR extension, establishing a standardized checklist and explanation for scoping reviews that has become a foundational methodological reference in systematic research.

The researcher's primary contribution is the development of the PRISMA-ScR extension, detailed in the 2018 paper 'PRISMA extension for scoping reviews (PRISMA-ScR): checklist and explanation' published in Annals of Internal Medicine. This work stands as a singular, seminal output in this specific line of inquiry, with no subsequent follow-up papers by the researcher building directly upon it.

This line of work appears to address the need for standardized reporting guidelines in scoping reviews, a distinct type of evidence synthesis. By providing a dedicated checklist and explanation, the researcher likely filled a methodological gap where existing frameworks were insufficient or unclear for this specific review type, offering a concrete tool for researchers to improve transparency and rigor.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its substantial uptake in the scientific community, with the core paper accumulating over 42,000 citations. Furthermore, analysis of citing literature indicates that 85% of these citations originate from independent researchers, suggesting that the PRISMA-ScR framework has been widely adopted and relied upon by the broader global research community rather than just the author's immediate circle.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 5 · **2 flagged influential by Semantic Scholar**

CORE PAPER

PRISMA extension for scoping reviews (PRISMA-ScR): checklist and explanation

2018 · Annals of Internal Medicine · 42,943 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 28,477 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	The GenAI is out of the bottle: generative artificial intelligence from a business model innovation perspective	HHL Leipzig Graduate School of Management	Germany	—
2	The effects of over-reliance on AI dialogue systems on students' cognitive abilities: a systematic review	Central Queensland University, CQUniversity	Australia	Background
3	A meta systematic review of artificial intelligence in higher education: A call for increased ethics, collaboration, and rigour	Halmstad University, Harvard Medical School, The University of Queensland	Australia, Sweden, United Kingdom	**Methodology**

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
4	Personalized adaptive learning in higher education: A scoping review of key characteristics and impact on academic performance and engagement (2024)	University of Pretoria, University of the Witwatersrand	South Africa	Methodology
5	Stress, Burnout, Anxiety and Depression among Teachers: A Scoping Review (2022)	University of Alberta	Canada	Methodology

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).

Citing-text excerpts — how the field used this work

METHODOLOGY A meta systematic review of artificial intelligence in higher education: A call for increased ethics, collaboration, and rigour

"Overcoming resistance to change and solving various challenges, including those of an ethical and administrative nature, was identified as pivotal for successful AIHEd integration (Sourani, 2019)."

METHODOLOGY Personalized adaptive learning in higher education: A scoping review of key characteristics and impact on academic performance and engagement

"The JBI Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic reviews and Meta-Analyses extension for Scoping Reviews, PRISMA-ScR Checklist was used a reporting guideline [40]."

METHODOLOGY Stress, Burnout, Anxiety and Depression among Teachers: A Scoping Review

"This scoping review was planned and conducted in adherence to the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses extension for Scoping Reviews (PRISMA-ScR) statement [35]."

D. Citing-Institution Prestige & Geography

Top citing institutions

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
Monash University	Australia	THE =58 · QS =36	5
McMaster University	Canada	SCImago #465 · THE =116 · QS =173	4
Johns Hopkins University	United States	SCImago #33 · THE 16 · QS 24	4
Harvard Medical School	United States	SCImago #12	4
University College London	United Kingdom	SCImago #30	3
Oregon Health & Science University	United States	SCImago #689 · THE 351–400	3
Mayo Clinic	United States	SCImago #88	3
Ottawa Hospital Research Institute	Canada	SCImago #2914	3
University of Southern Denmark	Denmark	SCImago #884 · THE 251–300 · QS =303	3
American University of Beirut	Lebanon	SCImago #3188 · QS =237	3
University of California, Los Angeles	United States	SCImago #70 · THE =18 · QS 46	3
Jimma University	Ethiopia	SCImago #5519	2
Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation, University of Washington	United States	—	2
Tehran University of Medical Sciences	Iran	SCImago #701 · THE 501–600	2
Northwestern University	United States	THE 30 · QS =42	2

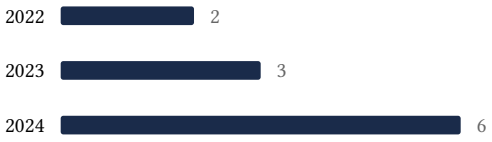
Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
United States	13
Australia	10
United Kingdom	8
Canada	8
France	4
Lebanon	3
Germany	3
South Africa	3
Denmark	3
Netherlands	3
Nigeria	2
Iran	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.

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	GRADE guidelines: 1. Introduction—GRADE evidence profiles and summary of findings tables	6	8 CFR 204.5(h)(3)(v) — Criterion 5
Contribution 2	The PRISMA 2020 statement: an updated guideline for reporting systematic reviews	7	8 CFR 204.5(h)(3)(v) — Criterion 5
Contribution 3	PRISMA extension for scoping reviews (PRISMA-ScR): checklist and explanation	5	8 CFR 204.5(h)(3)(v) — Criterion 5