Citation Evidence Report

EB-1B Petition — Outstanding Professor or Researcher

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

Tae Hart

Toronto Metropolitan University

Google Scholar profile

Generated 2026-06-10 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

6	6	1	41
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 6 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	6
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 conducted a seminal meta-analysis establishing the association between stressful life events and multiple sclerosis exacerbations, a finding widely adopted by independent experts.

The researcher's primary contribution is the publication of a meta-analysis in The BMJ in 2004, titled 'Association between stressful life events and exacerbation in multiple sclerosis.' This work serves as the foundational piece for this line of inquiry, synthesizing existing evidence to address the relationship between psychological stressors and clinical outcomes in multiple sclerosis patients.

This study appears to address a critical gap by systematically evaluating the impact of stressful life events on disease exacerbation. By employing a meta-analytic approach, the researcher provided a consolidated view of the evidence, offering a rigorous assessment of a complex psychosomatic interaction that was previously fragmented across individual studies.

The significance of this work is evidenced by its substantial citation count of 621, indicating broad recognition within the scientific community. Notably, analysis of citing papers reveals that 100% of the classified citations originate from independent researchers, demonstrating that the findings have been widely adopted and utilized by experts outside the researcher's immediate circle to inform subsequent investigations and clinical understanding.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 6

CORE PAPER

Association between stressful life events and exacerbation in multiple sclerosis: A meta-analysis

2004 · The BMJ · 621 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 398 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 5% of Medicine papers from 2004 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Clinical Course of Multiple Sclerosis (2018)	Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai	United States	Background
2	Origin and Function of Stress-Induced IL-6 in Murine Models (2020)	Yale School of Medicine, Yale University, Yale University School of Medicine	United States	—
3	Brain-gut interactions in inflammatory bowel disease (2013)	Grenoble Institut des Neurosciences	France	Background
4	Mast cells and inflammation (2012)	Tufts University School of Medicine	United States	—
5	Neurological Rehabilitation: Optimizing Motor Performance (2010)	The University of Sydney	Australia	—
6	Comorbidity in multiple sclerosis: implications for patient care (2017)	University of Manitoba	Canada	—

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
Yale University School of Medicine	United States	—	1
Yale University	United States	SCImago #76 · THE 10 · QS 21	1
Tufts University School of Medicine	United States	—	1
The University of Sydney	Australia	SCImago #93 · THE =53 · QS =25	1
University of Manitoba	Canada	SCImago #1210 · THE 501–600 · QS =643	1
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai	United States	SCImago #295	1
Yale School of Medicine	United States	—	1
Grenoble Institut des Neurosciences	France	SCImago #2149	1

Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
United States	3
Australia	1
Canada	1
France	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

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	Association between stressful life events and exacerbation in multiple sclerosis: A meta-analysis	6	8 CFR 204.5(i)(3) — Outstanding Researcher