Citation Evidence Report

EB-2 NIW Petition — National Interest Waiver

Matter of Dhanasar · Prong 2 (well-positioned)

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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 Prong 2 of Matter of Dhanasar (the petitioner is well positioned to advance the proposed endeavor) — the prong where past citation evidence is most probative. 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	260
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.

78.6% independent of 14 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	11
Self-citation	0
Co-author	3
Same-institution	0

1 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 helped establish a consensus framework for Mild Cognitive Impairment, resolving prior controversies through a seminal report that has been cited over 6,400 times.

The researcher's primary contribution is the development of a consensus framework for Mild Cognitive Impairment, anchored by the 2004 report published in the Journal of Internal Medicine. This work stands as a standalone seminal piece, with no follow-up papers by the same researcher listed in this specific line of inquiry.

This line of work appears to address significant controversies surrounding the definition and classification of Mild Cognitive Impairment. By convening an International Working Group, the researcher facilitated a move toward standardized criteria, suggesting a critical need in the field for unified diagnostic guidelines during that period.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its extensive uptake, with over 6,400 citations. Notably, analysis of citing papers reveals that 100% of the classified citations originate from independent researchers, indicating that this framework has been widely adopted and utilized by the broader scientific community beyond the researcher's immediate circle.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 4

CORE PAPER

Mild cognitive impairment–beyond controversies, towards a consensus: report of the International Working Group on Mild Cognitive Impairment

2004 · Journal of Internal Medicine · 6,424 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 4,776 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Medicine papers from 2004 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Worldwide prevalence of mild cognitive impairment among community dwellers aged 50 years and older: a meta-analysis and systematic review of epidemiology studies (2022)	Beijing Anding Hospital, Beijing Anding Hospital, Capital Medical University, Hong Kong Polytechnic University	China, Hong Kong, Macau	—
2	Mental health care for older adults: recent advances and new directions in clinical practice and research (2022)	Duke University, University of California San Diego, University of New South Wales	Australia, United States	—
3	Practice guideline update summary: Mild cognitive impairment: Report of the Guideline Development, Dissemination, and Implementation Subcommittee of the American Academy of Neurology (2018)	Charleston Area Medical Center, Cleveland Clinic, Fort Wayne Neurological Center	Canada, United States	—
4	Recent Advancements in Pathogenesis, Diagnostics and Treatment of Alzheimer's Disease (2020)	SVKM'S NMIMS, SVKM'S NMIMS	India	—

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 conducted a seminal meta-analysis clarifying how age, sex, and ethnicity modulate the association between apolipoprotein E genotype and Alzheimer disease.

The researcher's contribution centers on a 1997 JAMA meta-analysis examining how demographic factors influence the link between apolipoprotein E genotype and Alzheimer disease. This work stands as a singular, foundational piece in this specific line of inquiry, with no subsequent follow-up papers by the same author building directly upon it.

This study appears to address the need for a comprehensive synthesis of existing data to determine whether the genetic risk for Alzheimer disease varies significantly across different population subgroups. By aggregating evidence, the work likely provided a clearer, more nuanced understanding of genetic susceptibility than individual studies could offer alone.

The impact of this research is evidenced by its substantial citation count, indicating widespread recognition within the medical community. Furthermore, the fact that all classified citations originate from independent researchers underscores the work's broad influence and acceptance beyond the author's immediate academic circle.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 2

CORE PAPER

Effects of age, sex, and ethnicity on the association between apolipoprotein E genotype and Alzheimer disease: a meta-analysis

1997 · JAMA: The Journal of the American Medical Association · 6,128 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 3,762 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Medicine papers from 1997 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Alzheimer's disease: insights into pathology, molecular mechanisms, and therapy	Shenzhen Research Institute of Xiamen University	China	—
2	2018 Alzheimer's disease facts and figures (2018)	Alzheimer's Association, Boston University, Rush University Medical Center	United States	—

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 advanced obesity biology by conducting large-scale genetic studies of body mass index, yielding new biological insights as evidenced by a highly cited 2015 Nature publication.

The researcher's contribution centers on a seminal 2015 paper in Nature titled 'Genetic studies of body mass index yield new insights for obesity biology.' This work represents a foundational effort to elucidate the genetic underpinnings of body mass index, providing critical new perspectives on the biological mechanisms driving obesity. By focusing on genetic determinants, the study addresses the complex etiology of obesity, moving beyond environmental factors to identify heritable components that influence body weight regulation.

This line of work appears to address a significant gap in understanding the biological basis of obesity by leveraging genetic data to uncover novel pathways. The title suggests a shift toward a more mechanistic understanding of body mass index, offering insights that were previously less defined. The absence of follow-up papers by the same researcher in this specific dataset indicates that this single publication stands as a distinct, high-impact contribution to the field, rather than part of a prolonged series of incremental studies by the author.

The significance of this contribution is underscored by its substantial citation count of 5,506, indicating widespread recognition and utility within the scientific community. Furthermore, analysis of citing papers reveals that 100% of the classified citations originate from independent researchers, excluding the author, co-authors, and institutional colleagues. This high degree of independent citation demonstrates that the work has been broadly adopted and validated by the wider research community, confirming its status as a key reference in obesity biology.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 5

CORE PAPER

Genetic studies of body mass index yield new insights for obesity biology

2015 · Nature · 5,506 citations (GS)

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Mendelian randomization for cardiovascular diseases: principles and applications	University of Cambridge, Uppsala University	Sweden, United Kingdom	—
2	Heart Disease and Stroke Statistics—2023 Update: A Report From the American Heart Association (2023)	Aga Khan University / Baylor College of Medicine, American Heart Association, Baylor College of Medicine	Brazil, Canada, United States	—
3	Heart disease and stroke statistics—2022 update: a report from the American Heart Association (2022)	American Heart Association, Baylor College of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine and Michael E. DeBakey VA Center	Brazil, United States	—
4	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 Heart Association & Columbia University	Brazil, Canada, China	—
5	2025 Heart Disease and Stroke Statistics: A Report of US and Global Data From the American Heart Association (2025)	American Heart Association, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and Harvard Medical School	Brazil, Canada, United States	—

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 Pittsburgh	United States	SCImago #212 · QS =281	7
Stanford University	United States	SCImago #18 · THE =5 · QS 3	5
Boston University	United States	SCImago #272 · THE =76 · QS =88	5
University of California, San Francisco	United States	SCImago #98	5

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine	United States	—	4
National Institutes of Health	United States	SCImago #44	4
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center	United States	SCImago #647	4
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and Harvard Medical School	United States	—	4
Columbia University	United States	SCImago #65 · THE 20 · QS =38	4
University of Alabama at Birmingham	United States	QS 1001-1200	4
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	United States	THE 78 · QS =140	4
University of Washington	United States	SCImago #45 · THE 25 · QS 81	4
Medical University of South Carolina	United States	SCImago #1607	4
National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute	United States	SCImago #345	4
Brigham and Women's Hospital	United States	SCImago #130	4

Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
United States	10
Brazil	4
Canada	4
Sweden	3
China	3
Australia	2
United Kingdom	2
Italy	1
Japan	1
Macau	1
Netherlands	1
Singapore	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.

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	Mild cognitive impairment–beyond controversies, towards a consensus: report of the International Working Group on Mild Cognitive Impairment	4	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)
Contribution 2	Effects of age, sex, and ethnicity on the association between apolipoprotein E genotype and Alzheimer disease: a meta-analysis	2	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)
Contribution 3	Genetic studies of body mass index yield new insights for obesity biology	5	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)