

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

6 Citing papers mapped	6 Citation edges	1 Home papers mapped	25 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 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 established a foundational assessment of cardiovascular risk prevalence among diverse Hispanic/Latino populations in the United States through a highly cited 2012 JAMA publication.

The researcher's contribution centers on a seminal 2012 paper published in JAMA, which examined the prevalence of major cardiovascular risk factors and diseases among Hispanic/Latino individuals of diverse backgrounds in the United States. This work stands as a core reference in the field, with no subsequent follow-up papers by the same researcher listed in this specific line of inquiry.

This line of work appears to address a critical gap in understanding the heterogeneity of cardiovascular health outcomes within the Hispanic/Latino demographic. By focusing on diverse backgrounds, the research likely provided necessary granularity that broader studies may have overlooked, offering a distinct perspective on risk factor distribution.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its substantial citation count of 1,156, indicating widespread recognition and utility in the scientific community. Furthermore, analysis of citing papers reveals that 100% of the classified citations originate from independent researchers, underscoring the work's broad impact beyond the researcher's immediate institutional or collaborative network.

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

CORE PAPER

Prevalence of Major Cardiovascular Risk Factors and Cardiovascular Diseases Among Hispanic/Latino Individuals of Diverse Backgrounds in the United States

2012 · JAMA · 1,156 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 879 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Sociology papers from 2012 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Heart Disease and Stroke Statistics—2017 Update: A Report From the American Heart Association (2017)	Albert Einstein College of Medicine, American Heart Association, Baptist Health South Florida	Australia, United States	—
2	Heart Disease and Stroke Statistics—2018 Update: A Report From the American Heart Association (2018)	Albert Einstein College of Medicine, American Heart Association, Baptist Health South Florida	Australia, Nigeria, Singapore	—
3	Heart Disease and Stroke Statistics—2019 Update: A Report From the American Heart Association (2019)	American Heart Association, Baylor College of Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine and Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center	Brazil, United Kingdom, United States	—
4	Heart disease and stroke statistics—2016 update: a report from the American Heart Association (2016)	—	—	—
5	Social Determinants of Risk and Outcomes for Cardiovascular Disease: A Scientific Statement From the American Heart Association (2015)	Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Johns Hopkins University, National Institutes of Health	United Kingdom, United States	Influential

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
6	Heart Disease and Stroke Statistics—2020 Update: A Report From the American Heart Association (2020)	American Heart Association	—	—

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 is Influential signal, Valenzuela et al. 2015), or *Background* (a passing mention).

D. Citing-Institution Prestige & Geography

Top citing institutions

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
American Heart Association	United States	SCImago #2251	4
Stanford University	United States	SCImago #18 · THE =5 · QS 3	4
Northwestern University	United States	THE 30 · QS =42	4
National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute	United States	SCImago #345	3
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	United States	THE 78 · QS =140	3
Hunter College, City University of New York	United States	—	3
Case Western Reserve University	United States	SCImago #627 · THE =145 · QS =294	3
University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston	United States	SCImago #1172	3
Boston University	United States	SCImago #272 · THE =76 · QS =88	3
Yale University	United States	SCImago #76 · THE 10 · QS 21	3
University of Washington	United States	SCImago #45 · THE 25 · QS 81	3
University of Pittsburgh	United States	SCImago #212 · QS =281	3
National Institutes of Health	United States	SCImago #44	3
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center	United States	SCImago #647	3
UT Southwestern Medical Center	United States	—	3

Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
United States	4
United Kingdom	3
Australia	2
Brazil	1
Nigeria	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.

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	Prevalence of Major Cardiovascular Risk Factors and Cardiovascular Diseases Among Hispanic/Latino Individuals of Diverse Backgrounds in the United States	6	Dhanasar — Prong 2 (well-positioned)