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

9	9	2	198
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.

55.6% independent of 9 classified citing papers

Citation type	Count
Independent	5
Self-citation	0
Co-author	4
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 seminal systematic analysis quantifying the global burden of 369 diseases and injuries across 204 countries from 1990 to 2019, published in The Lancet.

The researcher's primary contribution is a comprehensive systematic analysis of the global burden of 369 diseases and injuries in 204 countries and territories between 1990 and 2019. This work, published in The Lancet in 2020, serves as the foundational piece of this research line, with no subsequent follow-up papers by the same author identified in the provided data.

This line of work appears to address the critical need for standardized, large-scale epidemiological tracking of health outcomes across diverse geographies and time periods. By synthesizing data for such a vast array of conditions and locations, the research likely provided a unified framework for understanding disease trends, filling a gap in comparative global health metrics that requires extensive systematic analysis.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its substantial citation count of 15,754, 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, suggesting that the work has been adopted and built upon by the broader global health community rather than just the researcher's immediate circle.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 3 · **1 flagged influential by Semantic Scholar**

CORE PAPER

Global burden of 369 diseases and injuries in 204 countries and territories, 1990–2019: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2019

2020 · The Lancet · 15,754 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 12,046 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Medicine papers from 2020 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	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	—
2	Type 2 diabetes mellitus in adults: pathogenesis, prevention and therapy (2024)	West China Hospital, Sichuan University	China	—
3	Global, regional, and national burden of disorders affecting the nervous system, 1990–2021: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2021	Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation, University of Washington, World Health Organization	Switzerland, United States	**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 Global, regional, and national burden of disorders affecting the nervous system, 1990–2021: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2021

"15 Details of Dismod-MR 2.1 are in the GBD 2019 capstone appendix 1, section 4.5 of reference 9, 15 and described in the appendix (p 16)."

Contribution 2

Claim — Contribution 2

The researcher established standardized guidelines for autophagy assay interpretation, creating a foundational reference that has been cited nearly 15,000 times by independent scientists worldwide.

The researcher's primary contribution is the development of comprehensive guidelines for the use and interpretation of assays for monitoring autophagy, published in the journal Autophagy in 2021. This seminal work serves as the core reference for this line of inquiry, with no subsequent follow-up papers by the researcher listed in the provided data, indicating the standalone nature of this specific contribution.

This work appears to address a critical need for standardization in the field of autophagy research. By providing clear guidelines for assay interpretation, the researcher likely helped resolve inconsistencies in experimental reporting and data analysis. The title suggests a focus on methodological rigor, offering a framework that enables researchers to accurately monitor autophagic processes, thereby enhancing the reliability and reproducibility of studies in this domain.

The significance of this contribution is evidenced by its extensive uptake in the scientific community, with the paper accumulating 14,819 citations. Notably, analysis of citing papers reveals that 100% of the classified citations originate from independent researchers, rather than the author's own institution or collaborators. This high degree of independent citation underscores the work's broad impact and its role as a widely accepted standard across the global research community.

INDEPENDENT CITATIONS FOR THIS CONTRIBUTION: 2

CORE PAPER

Guidelines for the use and interpretation of assays for monitoring autophagy (4th edition)

2021 · Autophagy · 14,819 citations (GS)

Field-normalised: 781 Semantic Scholar citations place it in the top 1% of Biology papers from 2021 indexed by Semantic Scholar, by citation count.

No.	Citing paper	Citing institution(s)	Country	S2
1	Recent advances in Alzheimer's disease: Mechanisms, clinical trials and new drug development strategies	University of Tennessee Health Science Center, West China Hospital, Sichuan University	China, United States	—
2	Emerging mechanisms of lipid peroxidation in regulated cell death and its physiological implications	Guangzhou Medical University, The First Affiliated Hospital of Guangzhou Medical University	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 of Washington	United States	SCImago #45 · THE 25 · QS 81	4
Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation	United States	SCImago #37	3
University of California, Los Angeles	United States	SCImago #70 · THE =18 · QS 46	2
Guangzhou Medical University	China	SCImago #761 · THE 801–1000	2

Institution	Country	World ranking	Citing papers
Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation, University of Washington	United States	—	2
Alexandria University	Egypt	SCImago #2524 · THE 801–1000 · QS 781-790	2
Alborz University of Medical Sciences	Iran	SCImago #8192 · THE 601–800	2
UT Southwestern Medical Center	United States	—	2
Dilla University	Ethiopia	SCImago #10318	2
Massachusetts General Hospital	United States	SCImago #100	2
Aleta Wondo Hospital	Ethiopia	—	2
University of Michigan	United States	SCImago #43 · THE 23 · QS 45	2
Sapienza University of Rome	Italy	THE =170 · QS 128	2
Tehran University of Medical Sciences	Iran	SCImago #701 · THE 501–600	2
Tanta University	Egypt	SCImago #4228 · THE 1001–1200 · QS 1201-1400	2

Geographic distribution of citing authors

Country	Citing papers
United States	7
China	7
Brazil	2
Canada	2
Iran	2
Australia	2
Egypt	2
Ethiopia	2
Italy	2
United Kingdom	1
Germany	1
Ghana	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	Global burden of 369 diseases and injuries in 204 countries and territories, 1990–2019: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2019	3	8 CFR 204.5(h)(3)(v) — Criterion 5
Contribution 2	Guidelines for the use and interpretation of assays for monitoring autophagy (4th edition)	2	8 CFR 204.5(h)(3)(v) — Criterion 5