

Some people may be genetically susceptible to UV tanning dependence

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Researchers have found a possible underlying genetic susceptibility to being dependent on UV tanning.

After interviewing young people about their indoor and outdoor tanning history and using [questionnaires](#) to classify people as being dependent on UV tanning or not, the investigators conducted a large scale scan of approximately 319,000 rare and common genetic variants in the participants' genomes.

"We observed that inherited variation in one gene - known as patched domain containing 2 (PTCHD2) - was significantly associated with whether or not [young people](#), all of whom had previously sunbathed or indoor tanned, exhibited symptoms of tanning dependence," said Dr. Brenda Cartmel, lead author of the *Experimental Dermatology* study.

More information: Cartmel, B., Dewan, A., Ferrucci, L. M., Gelernter, J., Stapleton, J., Leffell, D. J., Mayne, S. T. and Bale, A. E. (2014), Novel gene identified in an exome-wide association study of tanning dependence. *Experimental Dermatology*, 23: 757-759. [DOI: 10.1111/exd.12503](#)

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