

**Project Melanotan: A Study on Injectable Tanning.**  
**Stephanie Raymond (Sociology PhD candidate), School of Social Science**  
**The University of Queensland**  
**Digital interview questions.**

**Section 1: Participant Bibliography**

<b>Background Information</b>	<b>Responses</b>
1. Age/ birth year	
2. Gender	
3. Ethnic background	
4. Occupation	
5. Level of education	
6. Place of residence (suburb/postcode)	
<b>Introductory Questions</b>	<b>Responses</b>
7. Current or former MT user	
8. Age when first began MT use	
10. Duration of MT use (days/months/years?)	
11. Frequency of MT use (Daily, several times per week, weekly etc?)	
12. Cyclical or sporadic (irregular) MT user?	
13. Do you use other tanning methods? (eg. Solariums, spray tan, cream tanners, make-up, Sun-bathing, etc.)	
14. Age when first began tanning (any method)	
15. Are you a member of melanotanforum.org? If so, when and why did you join?	
16. Are there places (online or offline) where you interact with other 'melanotanners'?	
17. How would you describe your natural skin type?	

[Continue to section 2...](#)

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**Section 2: 'The Tan and You' (General, open-ended questions, about tanning & the tanned aesthetic).**

Before we talk about your experiences with MT, I'd like to hear your opinions on tanning more generally.

Please take up as much space to respond as you would like. Responses can be in point form, but responses written as a 'train of thought' or 'conversation style' are preferred.

17. What is it about tanned skin/tanned appearance that appeals to you?

18. Has having a tan/ being tan always been important to you? (If it has become important at a certain time, in relation to a certain life event, please provide detail).

19. Do you tan (using any modality) year-round, or only at certain times of the year?

20. How do you feel when you're tanned (as compared to when you're not)?

[Continue to section 3...](#)

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**Section 3: ‘Melanotanning Experiences’ (reminder, your responses will be kept confidential)**

21. Can you tell me a little about how you came to hear about MT (your age; through what channels/individuals)

22. Did you do research before deciding to use MT?

- a. If so, what kind of resources did you consult? (online forums – either observing or interactive; news articles; peer-reviewed journals; basic google search; discussions with peers/family/colleagues )
- b. If not, why not?

23. What appealed to you about MTing over other forms of tanning (both natural and artificial)

24. Does anyone else know that you use MT? If so, who? (If you don't disclose to others, can you tell us a little about why you made that choice?)

25. Where did you/do you source your MT?

26. How do you decide when/how much to melanotan?

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27. How do you feel about the results/outcome of your MT use?

28. Do you document your MT use/progress (photos; diary' blog; log etc.) If so, (and you're willing to share, feel free to include pictures, links, diary/log entry etc)?

29. What is it about melanotanning that is different from other forms of tanning?

30. Since using MT, do you feel different about yourself; your body, your health, the tanned aesthetic?

31. What do you do/say when people ask about/remark on your tan?

Continue to section 4...

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**Section 4: Public Health/ risk questions**

32. Can you tell me in your own words about how MT works?

a. How did you come to learn this?

33. Does your level of understanding about how MT works affect the way you feel about using it?

34. Do you feel like there are any 'risks' involved in using MT?

a. If so, what are they? And how do you deal with those risks?

b. If not (or only 'minor' risks are identified), what prompted you to come to this conclusion?

35. Have you purchased MT online (or from unknown sources)? If so, what was your experience like?

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36. There is some controversy surrounding MT. What's your understanding of the concerns about MT use?

37. Some practitioners warn against the use of MT. How do you feel about this?

a. Have you talked to you GP (or other medical practitioner) about MT? If so, what were their thoughts?

b. How do you interpret warnings about MT?

38. Are you familiar with (Australian) Public Health campaigns about sun safety (Sun Smart; Slip, Slop, Slap; Sun Mum; Sunburn Fail, etc.)?

39. How do 'sun safe' messages fit alongside MT? Do they impact the way you use or understand MT?

40. What are your views on MT being used as a protective measure (namely, against sun damage and melanoma)?

Continue for closing questions...

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### **Closing Questions**

41. Do you have a plan for future Melanotan use?
42. Where do you see MT in the future of the tanning industry?
43. Is there something else about your experiences you'd like to share?
44. Is there anything you would like to ask our research team?
45. If you know of others who may be interested to participate in this research, please feel free to leave their contact information below:
46. You can also pass on our contact details to anyone who may be interested in the project

[s.raymond1@uq.edu.au](mailto:s.raymond1@uq.edu.au)

[www.projectmelanotan.com](http://www.projectmelanotan.com)

**(+61) 0408985454**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION.  
PLEASE CONTACT THE RESEARCHER TO COLLECT YOUR REIMBURSEMENT**

**-Ends-**

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