Supplementary Materials 1: Young Person Interview Schedule

Topic & Timing	Discussion Point	Prompts
Contextual background		• Contextual information about participant e.g. family, friends, work/study to get participant talking and to feel comfortable
(5 mins) Circumstances leading to admission 10 minutes Experiences during admission	<ul> <li>"Can you tell me, first of all, about your recent experience of being a patient at [insert name of hospital/ward]?"</li> <li>What was it like at the beginning of admission?</li> <li>How did it change?</li> <li>"Can you tell me what happened, once you were admitted? What was it like being a patient at [insert name of</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Events leading up to admission</li> <li>Process of referral and how it was initiated</li> <li>How did YP feel about being referred to unit         <ul> <li>Relieved, apprehensive, unnecessary</li> </ul> </li> <li>To what extent did she/he feel consulted, involved in decisions about care         <ul> <li>Did YP feel she/he had a choice? Was this important?</li> </ul> </li> <li>What were their expectations of the unit, before she/he was admitted?</li> <li>Environment         <ul> <li>Other patients</li> <li>Staff</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
10 minutes	hospital/ward]?" "How was it being away from home?"	<ul> <li>Information, communication, support, trust</li> <li>Treatment         <ul> <li>Type, effect, acceptability, Involvement in decisions</li> </ul> </li> <li>Length of stay         <ul> <li>Visits/support from family and friends</li> <li>any issues, difficulties experienced in visiting?</li> </ul> </li> <li>Did you find it helpful to be in the unit?         <ul> <li>In what way? What did you like most?</li> <li>Were there any things you did not like?</li> </ul> </li> <li>Do you think that being admitted to [insert name of the state of the st</li></ul>
Type of unit specific	"How did you feel about being admitted to a / distant adolescent unit / adult psychiatric ward?"	<ul> <li>hospital/ward] helped you get better?</li> <li>Positive / negative experiences (e.g. homesick, stigma)</li> <li>How much input did you have in the decision to admit you to this unit?</li> <li>Was [insert name of hospital/ward] an appropriate place for someone of your age?</li> <li>Do you think [insert name of hospital/ward] was the best place for you at the time?</li> <li>Was there a better alternative?</li> <li>Did the fact that the admission was going to be out-of-area/in an adult ward influence your willingness to agree to it?</li> <li>What were the most difficult aspects of being in an out-of-area admission/on an adult ward?</li> <li>If your treating team recommended another admission in the future and you knew that it is going to be out-of-area/on an adult ward, would you agree to it?</li> </ul>
Comparisons with other admissions	"Was this the first time you had been admitted as an inpatient?"	<ul> <li>If no – explore previous admissions, as above.</li> <li>Covid-19 experience</li> </ul>
5 minutes		

Circumstances	"Since you came home after being in	• Health (any treatment; what does YP think of this; could it
post admission	[insert name of hospital/ward], how	be improved/made more acceptable?)
•	have things been? Can you tell me	Home circumstances
5 minutes	how things are just now?"	School
		Relationships
		• Do you have any idea about what you want to do in future?
		• Aspirations re health, job etc
Reflection	"Looking back, what do you think	Helpful/unhelpful
10 minutes	about the time you spent in [insert name of hospital/ward]"	• good/positive or bad or negative effects?
	1 -	• anything else that helped you get better
		Friends, family, support groups, activities etc : relative importance, compared to admission and professional help
		• What do you think needs to happen to reduce admissions of young people to distant adolescent units / adult psychiatric wards (as appropriate)?
		• Can you think of any ways that the experience of young people in your situation when you were admitted to [insert name of hospital/ward] could be improved:
		• Finally, what advice would you give someone who was in your situation, just before you went to [insert name of hospital/ward]?
Ending & Sum	"Is there anything else you have to	Thank them for their participation
Up	add to what we have been talking	• Explain timeline and output of the study and how access
	about? Anything that is important	to results will be provided.
5 minutes	that we haven't covered already?"	