

## Supplementary Materials 1: Young Person Interview Schedule

Topic & Timing	Discussion Point	Prompts
<b>Contextual background</b> (5 mins)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contextual information about participant e.g. family, friends, work/study to get participant talking and to feel comfortable</li> </ul>
<b>Circumstances leading to admission</b> 10 minutes	<p>“Can you tell me, first of all, about your recent experience of being a patient at [insert name of hospital/ward]?”</p> <p>What was it like at the beginning of admission?</p> <p>How did it change?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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 style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Relieved, apprehensive, unnecessary</li> </ul> </li> <li>To what extent did she/he feel consulted, involved in decisions about care               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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> </ul>
<b>Experiences during admission</b> 10 minutes	<p>“Can you tell me what happened, once you were admitted? What was it like being a patient at [insert name of hospital/ward]?”</p> <p>“How was it being away from home?”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Environment               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Other patients</li> <li>Staff</li> <li>Information, communication, support, trust</li> </ul> </li> <li>Treatment               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Type, effect, acceptability, Involvement in decisions</li> </ul> </li> <li>Length of stay               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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 style="list-style-type: none"> <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 hospital/ward] helped you get better?</li> </ul>
<b>Type of unit specific</b>	“How did you feel about being admitted to a / distant adolescent unit / adult psychiatric ward?”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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>Was there any positive aspect to 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>
<b>Comparisons with other admissions</b> 5 minutes	“Was this the first time you had been admitted as an inpatient?”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If no – explore previous admissions, as above.</li> <li>Covid-19 experience</li> </ul>

<p><b>Circumstances post admission</b></p> <p>5 minutes</p>	<p>“Since you came home after being in [insert name of hospital/ward], how have things been? Can you tell me how things are just now?”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health (any treatment; what does YP think of this; could it be improved/made more acceptable?)</li> <li>• Home circumstances</li> <li>• School</li> <li>• Relationships</li> <li>• Do you have any idea about what you want to do in future?</li> <li>• Aspirations re health, job etc</li> </ul>
<p><b>Reflection</b></p> <p>10 minutes</p>	<p>“Looking back, what do you think about the time you spent in [insert name of hospital/ward]?”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Helpful/unhelpful</li> <li>• good/positive or bad or negative effects?</li> <li>• anything else that helped you get better Friends, family, support groups, activities etc : relative importance, compared to admission and professional help</li> <li>• What do you think needs to happen to reduce admissions of young people to distant adolescent units / adult psychiatric wards (as appropriate)?</li> <li>• 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:</li> <li>• Finally, what advice would you give someone who was in your situation, just before you went to [insert name of hospital/ward]?</li> </ul>
<p><b>Ending &amp; Sum Up</b></p> <p>5 minutes</p>	<p>“Is there anything else you have to add to what we have been talking about? Anything that is important that we haven’t covered already?”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thank them for their participation</li> <li>• Explain timeline and output of the study and how access to results will be provided.</li> </ul>