Supplementary Materials 3: Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist Interview Schedule

Topic & Timing	Discussion Point	Prompts
Case Example	"Can you tell me, first of all,	Seek to establish a detailed narrative account, including
background and	about a recent case involving	Events leading up to referral
circumstance	referral of a young person to	What factors indicated that inpatient admission was
	an inpatient unit: this could be	necessary?
10 minutes	locally, at some distance from	were there any other options?
	home, or to an adult ward"	Process of referral and how it was initiated
		was there more than one option of inpatient unit?
		was the YP admitted to R's preferred unit?
		if not, why not?
		How did YP and R/other family members feel about being
		referred to unit?
		Relieved, apprehensive, unnecessary, resisted etc
		To what extent did you feel that the YP and family were
		consulted, involved in decisions about care?
		What do you perceive to be the actual, appropriate and desired
		involvement of family in discussion and decisions about care?
		What kind of contact, if any, did you maintain with 1. the YP
		and 2. the family during the period of admission?
		what were the consequences of being able/
		not able to maintain such contact?
		Do you think YP found find it helpful to be in the unit?
		In what way? What did think helped them most?
		Were there any negative aspects or consequences of the
		admission?
		How would you assess the outcome of the YP's admission?
		How would you manage a similar episode affecting this YP in
		future?
		Do you think (the unit) was an appropriate place for someone
		of YP's age?
		If not, what would have been the best place?
Impact of admission	"What are the consequences	e.g. re experience of being an inpatient, contact with family,
_	of each type of admission	contact with familiar services and health professionals, ease of
	(adult, distant, local):	reintegration into family, school, community, etc
5 minutes	negative and positive?"	Do inpatient admissions pose any issues regarding continuity
		of care and the YP's engagement with CAMHS following
		discharge home?
		Do you think it can ever be helpful for some YP to be
		admitted to a unit at some distance from home? (If so, in what
		ways)
		Do you think that some YP might prefer admission to an
		adult, rather than a children's unit, or is this always
		inappropriate? (Explore)
Experiences and	"YP was admitted to a	Under what circumstances (choice, necessity etc)
Perceptions	local/distant YP unit/adult	Officer what efficiences (choice, necessity etc)
1 cr ceptions	ward. How often does this	What about (the other two options): do you ever refer YP to
10 minutes	happen?"	either of these?
10 minutes	парреп:	• under what circumstances?
		• under what circumstances?
		How do you feel that admission to a local adolescent unit
		How do you feel that admission to a local adolescent unit differs from a distance adolescent unit (as appropriate)? Pros /
		cons?
		COH5:
		What is your view about young people being admitted to
		distance adolescent units?
	1	distance addressent units:

		How regularly do you experience this?
		Who refers these patients?
		Do you receive appropriate information in the documentation?
		Do you have a protocol for managing young people at distance from home? If yes, useful or not?
		What involvement do you have in planning and managing the process of these admissions? Who else is involved?
		Are there any particular issues that you have faced in these circumstances?
		How do you feel admission to a ward at distance from home affects the patient and family experience?
		To what extent is there joint working with CAMHS consultants / GPs in the young people's local areas? How is this achieved / barriers to this? How could it be improved?
		To what extent (if at all) does admission to a distance adolescent unit influence the success of treatment / the experience of patients and family?
		How do you plan the continuity of care / post discharge care? Who else is involved in this? How easily is this achieved? How could it be improved?
		Where referrals are not accepted, what are the reasons? Is an alternative offered?
		What do you think needs to happen to reduce admissions of young people to distant adolescent units / adult psychiatric wards (as appropriate)?
Comparisons with other admissions	"How does your experience of cases such as these differ during the COVID-19	
5 minutes	pandemic	
Reflection 5 minutes	"Do you think it should be possible for people in YP's situation to avoid inpatient admission, and be treated in the community?"	what would be required to enable this to happen?

Policy/Guidelines	"How do current practice	Do you think it should be possible for people in YP's situation
5 minutes	guidelines and policy drivers inform your care of young people like XX(YP)?"	to avoid inpatient admission, and be treated in the community? o what would be required to enable this to happen?
		Are there any changes in current policy/clinical guidelines that you feel would improve current care of YP in psychiatric services?
		Are there any changes you would like to see in the organisation and resources available to you in managing the care of YP with severe mental health problems?
Ending & Sum Up	"Is there anything else you have to add to what we have	
5 minutes	been talking about? Anything that is important that we haven't covered already?"	