

Interview Guide

1. Can you describe what it felt like to enter the psychiatric ward for the first time, the environment, the atmosphere, and how the space made you feel?
2. How did the physical setting of the psychiatric ward, such as the locked doors, the layout, or the routines, affect your experience during the placement?
3. How did your body respond during your first days on the psychiatric ward, for example, did you notice any physical sensations such as tension, fatigue, or anxiety?
4. How did you feel physically and emotionally after returning home following your shifts on the psychiatric ward?
5. How did you experience time during your placement, did shifts feel long or short, and did this change over time?
6. Looking back, how would you describe your journey from your first day to your last day on the psychiatric ward?
7. How did your interactions with psychiatric patients shape your experience and your views about mental health nursing?
8. What role did preceptors, ward staff, or peers play in helping you navigate the psychiatric placement?
9. Did your attitudes or perceptions toward psychiatric patients or mental health nursing change during the placement, and if so, how?
10. Is there anything else you would like to share about your first psychiatric clinical placement that we have not covered?

Probes: Can you tell me more about that? What do you mean by this? How did that make you feel? Can you give me an example?