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**EVOLIUCINĖ MEDICINA:
ŽMOGAUS RAIDOS PERSPEKTYVOS IR SVEIKATA
BESIKEIČIANČIOJE APLINKOJE**

**EVOLUTIONARY MEDICINE:
PERSPECTIVES ON HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND HEALTH
CONSEQUENCES IN A CHANGING ENVIRONMENT**

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PATIENT AND PARENT PERSPECTIVES ON INPATIENT CHILD AND ADOLESCENT PSYCHIATRIC CARE: FEEDBACK FROM A LITHUANIAN TERTIARY UNIT

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Background and Aim: Systematic feedback from children, adolescents, and parents is important for monitoring inpatient psychiatric care and strengthening patient- and family-centered services. This study integrated patient and parent feedback on care in the Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Inpatient Unit of the Republican Vilnius Psychiatry Hospital.

Materials and Methods: Anonymous feedback was collected after inpatient treatment using Lithuanian adaptations of the Psychiatric Inpatient Patient Experience Questionnaire, on-site (PIPEQ-OS). Patients completed a child/adolescent-friendly version with two closed 1-5 satisfaction items and one open comment question. Parents/legal guardians completed a 22-item version rated on a 0-5 Likert scale and grouped into five domains: communication and therapeutic relationship; participation and family involvement; information and discharge preparation; ward environment and dignity; perceived benefit and overall satisfaction. Descriptive analyses were performed using SPSS; patient comments were grouped thematically. Internal consistency of the domains was assessed using Cronbach's alpha.

Results: Patient feedback was collected from January 2022 to July 2024: 253 of 503 inpatients responded (50.3%). Mean ratings were high for received support ($M = 4.69/5$) and feeling in the department ($M = 4.66/5$). Sixty-nine patients (27.3%) commented, mainly expressing general satisfaction, positive staff interactions, and improvement; less frequent negative comments concerned food, comfort, and homesickness. Parent feedback was collected from January 2022 to December 2025: 283 of 805 parents/legal guardians responded (35.1%). Highest-rated domains were communication and therapeutic relationship ($M = 4.42$), perceived benefit and overall satisfaction ($M = 4.19$), and information/discharge preparation ($M = 4.12$). Participation and family involvement scored lowest ($M = 3.47$), while ward environment and dignity were moderate to high ($M = 3.89$).

Conclusions: Patients and parents reported high satisfaction with inpatient child and adolescent psychiatric care, especially staff communication, support, and perceived treatment benefit. Lower parent ratings for participation and family involvement indicate a need to strengthen shared decision-making. Routine, age-appropriate feedback guides service improvement.

Keywords: child and adolescent psychiatry, inpatient care, parent feedback, patient experience, service evaluation