**Placement:**  Whipps Cross University Hospital

**Speciality: GIM**

DGH

**Location:** Whipps Cross Road, Leytonstone, E1 1NR

**How many renal trainees in post? 1 Trainee**

**Public transport links: 10** min walk to Wood Street Overground, 10 min walk to Leytonstone Underground (Central Line)

Excellent cycle links

**Average day: 09:00-17:00**

**On-call commitments:** Unselected medical take including days, nights, weekends - Take and ward cover. Expected frequency and within constraints of the dreadful contract the BMA agreed.

**Team structure:** During the day you are part of the Endocrine team covering Curie Ward which is largely general medicine and endocrine. You share this with an endocrine SpR. Lots of juniors but they dip in about out with their on-call responsibilities. The ward is extremely well staffed.

**Teaching duties:** Teaching on ward rounds and when on call. Encouraged to deliver teaching at departmental sessions, sessions for IMT/CMT/FY doctors and grand rounds.

**Food and drink (e.g. in hospital/locally – or is it a pack lunch every day situation?):** Standard hospital canteen with good variety. There’s also an M&S food on site by the maternity block.

**Ok, ok – but specifically coffee?:** Usual outsourced coffee provider whose name escapes me but is in most hospitals.

**R&R facilities (e.g. hospital mess? Registrar office?):** Largish mess with sofas where you can usually find the surgical SpR asleep if you need an opinion on an abdomen.

**Regular teaching?:** Lots of GIM opportunities. Thursday afternoons protected (when not on call) so you can attend MDTs/academic half day at RLH

**Opportunities for sub-speciality experience:** This is a GIM year so should be focussed on meeting these competencies (which you will) but as you are the only renal registrar on site you will provide advice and review for renal referrals supported by five consultant nephrologists who also do GIM. They should do the heavy lifting for renal work. You are not expected to provide routine support to the dialysis units on site but may be asked to attend in an emergency.

**Opportunities for research:** As you part part of the Barts Health renal network that are lots of opportunities for research and presenting your work at the academic half day meetings. There are ample opportunities for QIPs/Audits.

**Best thing about this placement:** The breadth of pathology is excellent. Whilst the medical take is busy you will see and learn a great deal and you will be a better doctor for having worked at Whipps. The day job is pretty chill but you will work hard when on call. You will be given lots of autonomy (far more than when in a pure renal post) but you will be extremely well supported. I have got so much from it during my first GIM year that I opted to return for my second.

**Worst thing about this placement:**

**Describe this placement in one sentence:** Parts of the estate are a bit dilapidated but many of the wards have been refitted recently. Plans to build the new hospital on site are progressing rapidly but will be some years before completed.