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West Lothian woman who battled rare cancer raises £7000 to help other patients

Kirsty Reid, of Whitburn, was diagnosed with pseudomyxoma peritonei, a condition that affects only two people per million.

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Brave Kirsty Reid organised fundraising ball to raise money for others affected by PMP

A West Lothian woman who has battled a rare cancer has raised over £7000 to help other patients.

Kirsty Reid, (31) from Whitburn, was diagnosed with pseudomyxoma peritonei (PMP) last year — a condition so rare that it affects only two people per million.

But instead of dwelling on the condition, the brave woman and her friends organised a special fundraising event to help other people with the illness get the support they need.

Kirsty, a supermarket buying assistant, discovered she had the condition when she sought help with husband David from a fertility clinic when they were unable to conceive.

Doctors discovered a cyst on her right ovary and scar tissue on her cervix and during surgery to remove the growths in June 2014, the surgeon found cause for concern and she was rushed in for a CT scan.

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Results showed Kirsty was suffering from rare cancerous tumours in her abdomen, known as pseudomyxoma peritonei (PMP).

She was told that she may need a full hysterectomy but, before the operation, she underwent emergency IVF.

Eight weeks after the invasive operation, which removed all Kirsty's reproductive organs, she was put on HRT as she was suffering from debilitating hot flushes as a result of going through the menopause, which have now stopped.

Kirsty is now keen to raise awareness of PMP and so organised the charity ball in the Hilcroft Hotel in Whitburn and raised a fantastic £7500 for the Pseudomyxoma Survivor charity.

Kirsty said: "We raised over £7500 for the charity. Which is incredible as the charity relies solely on donations, so this is a massive amount for them.

"I would like to personally thank the Hilcroft Hotel in Whitburn for hosting, the Bonneville Flats for entertainment on the night, and SMA Motor Auctions for sponsoring our cocktail hour.

"I would also like to thank everyone who came on the night, 178 in total, all of the local businesses that donated raffle and tombola prizes and to everyone who donated on our Just Giving page. It is very much appreciated."

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