



30th Annual BP MS 150 Fact Sheet

About BP MS 150

- The BP MS 150 is the top fundraising ride for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society nationwide; there are more than 100 Bike MS rides in the country.
- 2014 marks the 30th Annual BP MS 150 Houston-to-Austin Bike Ride.
- The ride will connect an estimated 12,000 riders, in addition to thousands of volunteers and supporters, as they embark on a shared journey to drive awareness and raise \$18.5 million for MS.
- Funds raised help support cutting-edge research and provide programs and services to individuals and families impacted by MS.
- In its history, the ride has raised nearly \$185 million for MS research, programs and services.
- BP MS 150 starts in Houston on Saturday, April 12 and finishes in front of the Bob Bullock Museum near the State Capitol in Austin on Sunday, April 13, following an overnight celebration in La Grange.
- BP became the title sponsor in 2001, furthering its commitment to the MS movement.
- Team BP averages more than 700 cyclists for the annual BP MS 150, and has raised more than \$11 million to date.
- The BP MS 150 is a fundraising event, not a race, and therefore is attractive for novice and experienced cyclists.
- Registration for the 2014 ride is available online at BPMS150.net.

About Multiple Sclerosis

- Multiple sclerosis, an unpredictable, often disabling disease of the central nervous system, interrupts the flow of information within the brain, and between the brain and body.
- Symptoms range from numbness and tingling to blindness and paralysis. The progress, severity and specific symptoms of MS in any one person cannot yet be predicted, but advances in research and treatment are moving us closer to a world free of MS.
- Most people with MS are diagnosed between the ages of 20 and 50, with at least two to three times more women than men being diagnosed with the disease.
- MS affects more than 2.3 million worldwide.
- There are four courses of MS: Relapsing-Remitting, Primary-Progressive, Secondary-Progressive and Progressive-Relapsing.
- In less than two decades, MS has moved from an untreatable disease to one where there are now 10 FDA approved disease modifying therapies for relapsing MS, the most common form of the disease, and a significant number of other exciting therapies in late stage development or already before the FDA for review.
- Taking a disease-modifying therapy is currently the best way to reduce MS disease activity and future deterioration. Studies comparing people in clinical trials who started therapy earlier than those on inactive placebo suggest that early treatment offered important benefits against the accumulation of disability, which were generally not experienced to the same degree by those who started treatment later.
- With MS so different from person to person, having this new broad range of options -- from injectibles, to infusions, to orals -- people with relapsing MS now have maximum opportunity to find a therapy that best addresses their MS symptom management and lifestyle needs.

About the National Multiple Sclerosis Society

- MS stops people from moving. The National MS Society exists to make sure it doesn't. The Society addresses the challenges of each person affected by MS by funding cutting-edge

research, driving change through advocacy, facilitating professional education, collaborating with MS organizations around the world, and providing programs and services designed to help people with MS and their families move their lives forward.

- The National MS Society is moving research forward by relentlessly pursuing prevention, treatment and cure. In 2012 alone, the Society invested \$43 million to support 350 research projects around the world while providing programs and services that assisted more than one million people.
- The National MS Society serves more than 68,000 Texans affected by multiple sclerosis, including more than 22,000 diagnosed with the disease.
- Early and ongoing treatment with an FDA-approved therapy can make a difference for people with multiple sclerosis. Learn about your options by talking to your health care professional and contacting the National MS Society at nationalMSSociety.org or 1-800-344-4867.

About BP

- Over the past five years, BP has invested more than \$55 billion in the U.S. – more than any other energy company.
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- BP has more investment, employees and shareholders in the US than anywhere else in the world, and it reinvests every dollar of profits earned here back into the U.S.
- Directly employing approximately 20,000 people in all 50 states, BP supports more than 260,000 jobs total through all of its business activities.
- For more information, visit www.bp.com.