



THANK YOU TO OUR
PLATINUM SPONSOR



LAUREN LOUCEL

DIAGNOSED IN 2014 // MY MS STORY

May 11, 2014, a day that I will never forget...the day I heard the words "You have MS". My MS diagnosis was a complete shock to me. I was healthy, involved in running and boxing, and had a great career. I loved to travel, spend time with friends, and live every day to the fullest. One day, I reached out to friends telling them I couldn't see clearly. I was concerned but slept on it. The next morning, I asked a friend to drive me to work. My computer screen was a big blur, a co-worker took me to the ER. After a CT scan, I was diagnosed with dizziness. I thought, "I'm not dizzy, I can't see!" The next day, my vision worsened. I went to the hospital; the nurse asked about my symptoms: I had blurred/double vision with pressure in my head. She immediately ordered an MRI! I was terrified, I had researched my symptoms on Web MD, and prepped for the worst. Later, my doctor came into a room full of my family and said, "Ms. Andrus, you have what looks to be multiple sclerosis." I burst into tears and could not calm myself down. All I could think was why? I was healthy, young, and I had my whole life ahead of me. Why me? After days in the hospital, and what felt like hundreds of tests, I was officially diagnosed with MS. Still scared, I knew it was up to me to make the best of this, begin treatment, and figure out how my new life would look.



Two years later, I joined Noble Drilling. From the time I was diagnosed, I never felt obligated to hide my disability. Here was no different. Two weeks into my new job, I received an email about Bike MS®: BP MS 150. I began to ugly cry and shared my diagnosis with my boss. He immediately referred me to the Noble Drilling team captains, Ron and Jason. They took me under their wing and introduced me to the MS Society staff and some amazing friends. I was voluntold by Ron to purchase a bike, begin fundraising, and get involved where I could. So, I did, and I don't regret one minute. With the unexpected passing of Ron, my role quickly changed, and I knew I was given this diagnosis and opportunity for a reason. Since 2016, I have supported my team as a Co-Captain alongside Jason, with the full support of our Executive Team at Noble. Recently, I became the team captain. I couldn't be any prouder to represent my company and those living with MS. Since my diagnosis, I have had a few setbacks, and flare-ups but nothing unmanageable. I continue to live with relapsing-remitting MS and undergo treatments as necessary. Since I was diagnosed, I became a mother of twin boys, Hudson and Grayson. I'm still cycling, and I got back to lifting weights.

Staying active both physically and cognitively plays a huge role in the day-to-day management of my MS. I will continue this lifestyle until I no longer can. I pray that day never comes. I have a lot of life to live and it's up to all of us to continue this fundraising journey and find a cure to END MS!

#BIKEMS
#TEXASMS150

*Don't just **ride**, Bike MS*