



# Life Science Marketing Group



**North Carolina Biotechnology Center**

March 10, 2020

12:00–12:15 Greetings & lunch

12:15–12:20 Announcements

12:20–1:00 Strategies for the Perfect  
Product Launch

1:00 Wrap up



# Strategies for the Perfect Launch

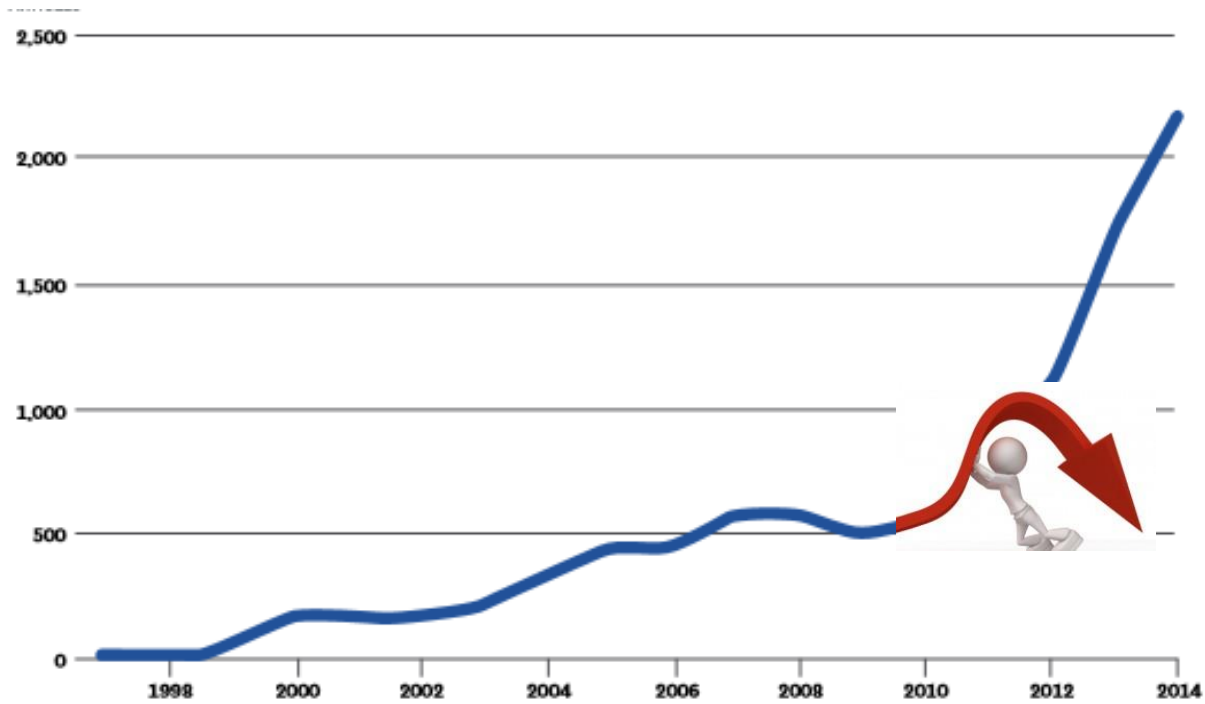
NCBiotech Life Science Marketing Group  
March 10, 2020

*“It takes a lot of hard work to make something simple, to truly understand the underlying challenges and come up with elegant solutions. To be truly simple, you have to go really deep.” ~ Steve Jobs*

# The “Perfect” Launch



# Reality





# Strategies for the Perfect Launch

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*“It takes a lot of hard work to make something simple, to truly understand the underlying challenges and come up with elegant solutions. To be truly simple, you have to go really deep.” ~ Steve Jobs*

**“The one thing I know is  
the revenue forecast is  
completely and totally made up.  
You have absolutely no idea.”**

~ Brad Feld, The Foundry Group, August 3, 2015

90% of startups fail

Of which, 90% fail due to market factors (not product dev)

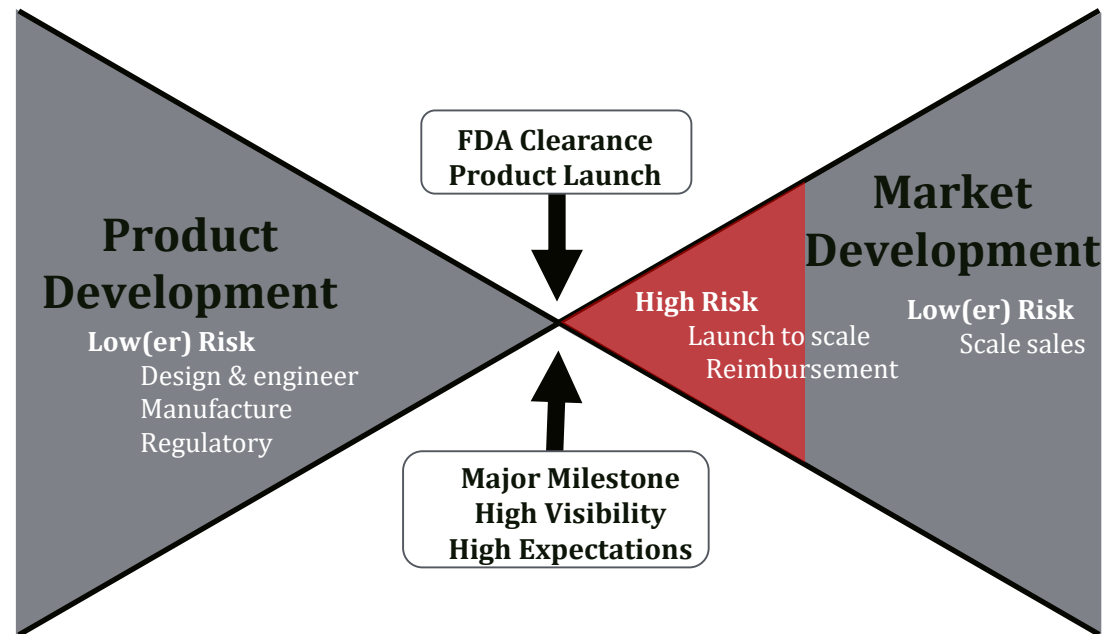
~ Steve Blank

75% of VC-backed startups fail to return capital invested

~ Scott D. Anthony, *The First Mile*

ONLY 14% of new product launches are innovative **BUT** generate 61% of profits

~ Harvard Business Review



The real game changers are even rarer. Only about 1 in 300 new products significantly impacts customer purchase behavior, the product category, or the company's growth trajectory.

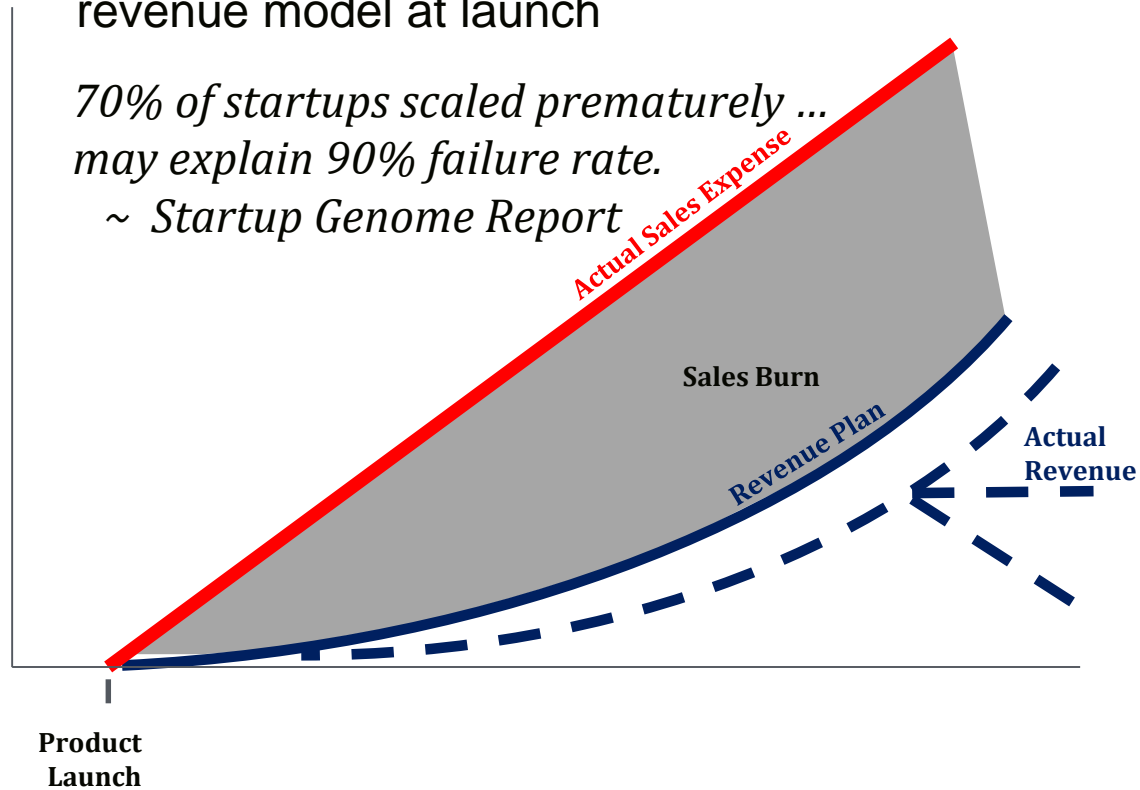
~ *Getting To Know Tomorrow's Customers, New Markets Advisors*



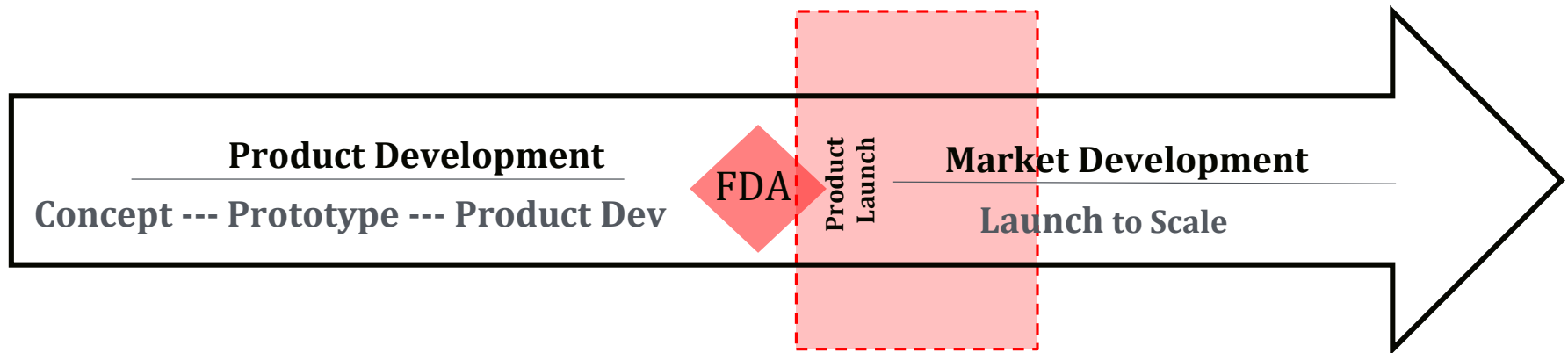
# The Problem – Enormous Costs

**Assumption:** A scalable revenue model at launch

*70% of startups scaled prematurely ...  
may explain 90% failure rate.  
~ Startup Genome Report*



# Product Development & Market Development



# Product Development & Market Development

**Product Development**  
Concept -- Prototype -- Product Dev

FDA

Product  
Launch

**Market**  
Market Entry

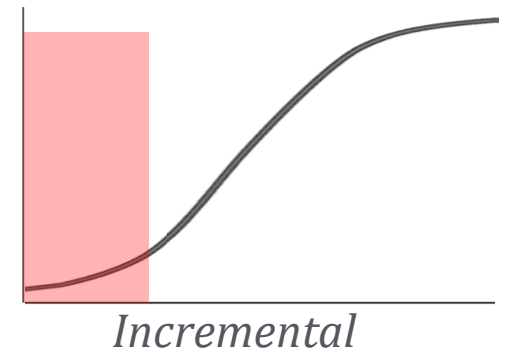
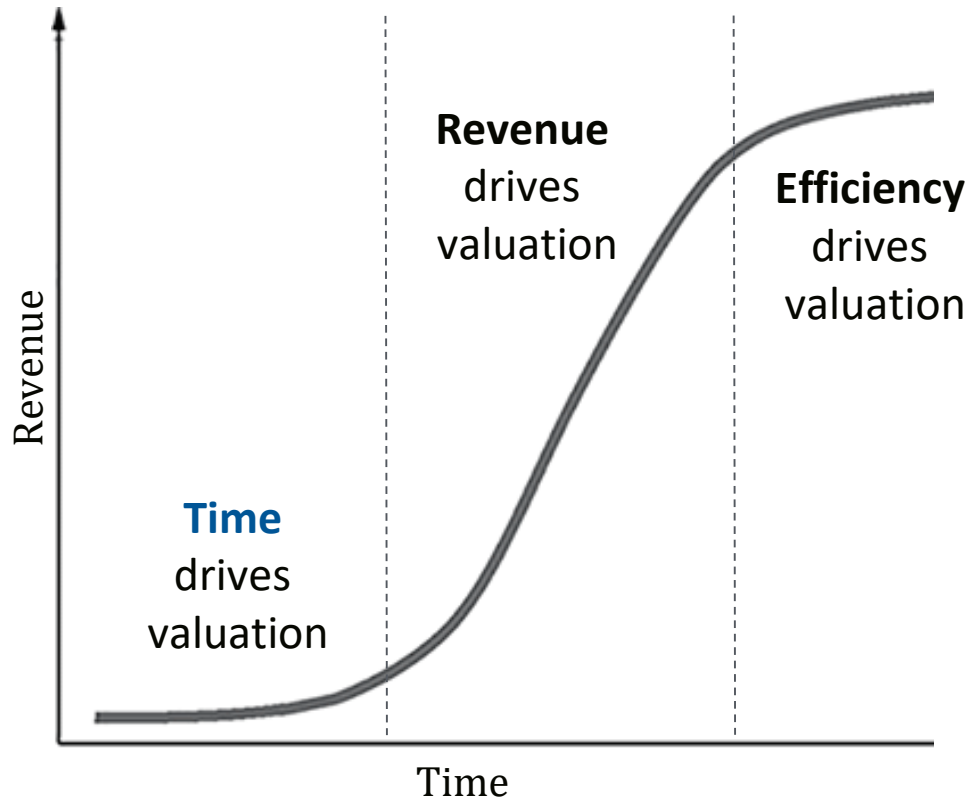
Repeatable  
Sales  
Process

**Development**  
Market at Scale

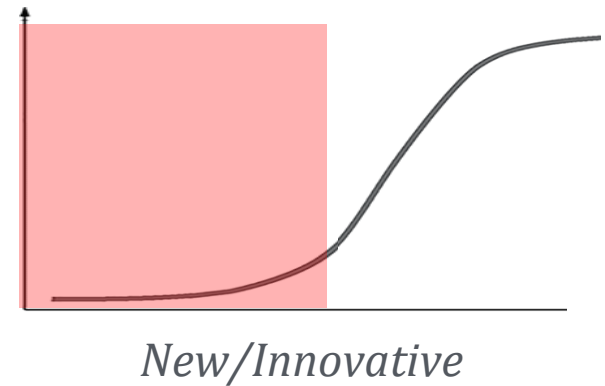


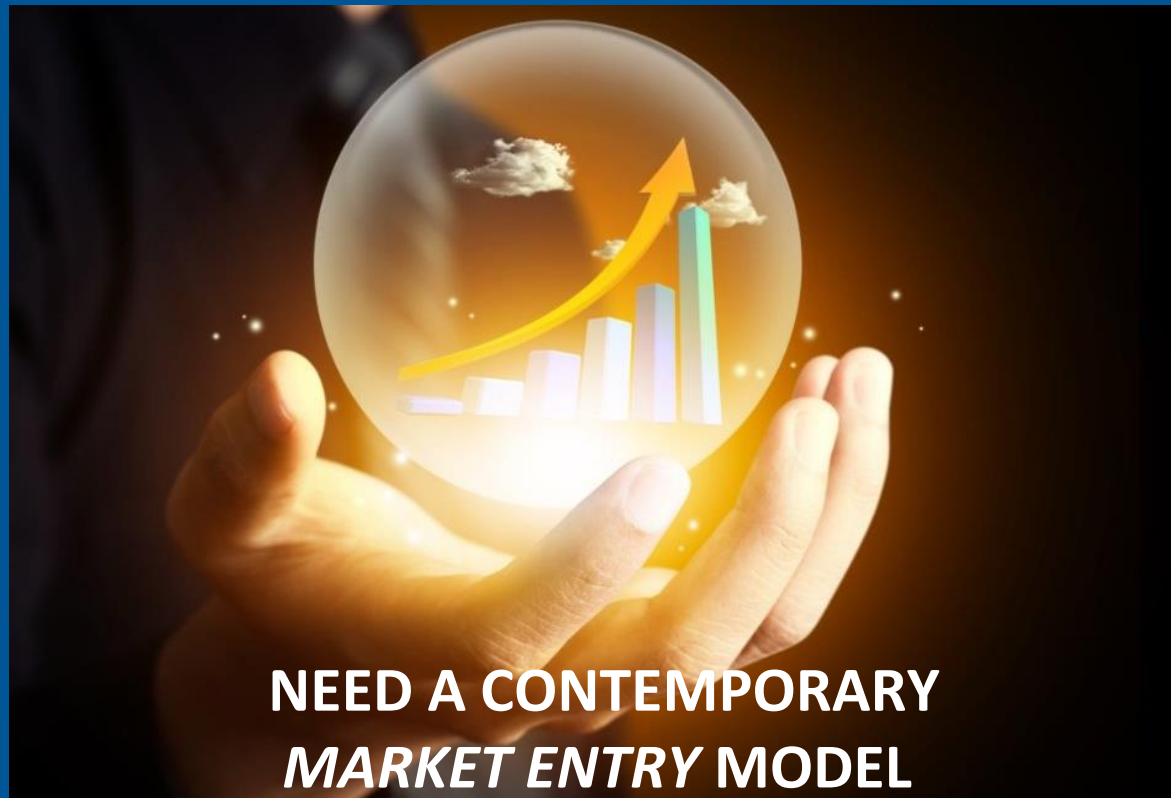
*Revenue*  
*vs.*  
*Valuation*

# Product Life Cycle



**Incremental  
vs.  
Disruptive**



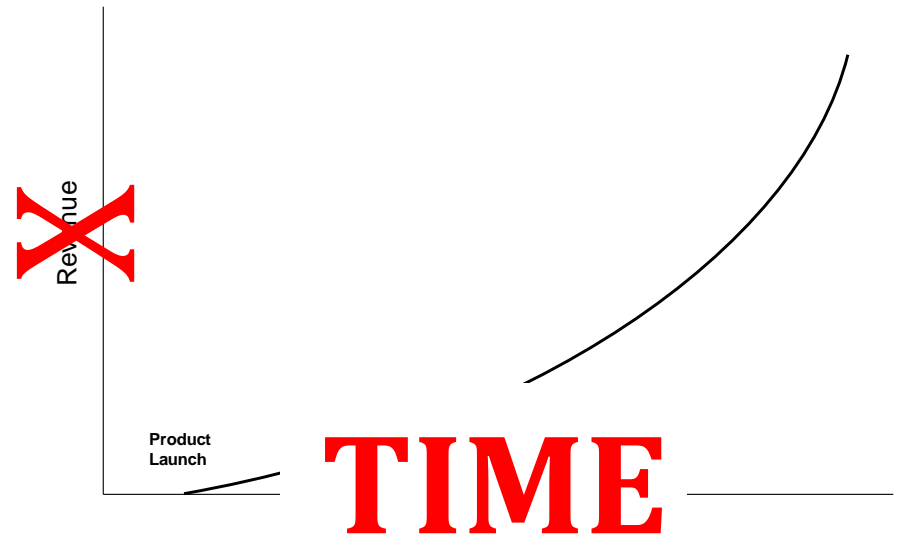


**NEED A CONTEMPORARY  
*MARKET ENTRY* MODEL**

## Fundamental Shift

GOAL is the  
**Repeatable Sales  
Process**

Revenue is an indicator,  
not the goal





# Start Selling Earlier --- Data IQ

## Outsider

Internal Assessment



- Market data & reports
  - Secondary market research
  - THE Business Plan
    - Assumption-based
    - Get to “Engaged with” NOW
- Key Insight:  
Market Size

## Engaged

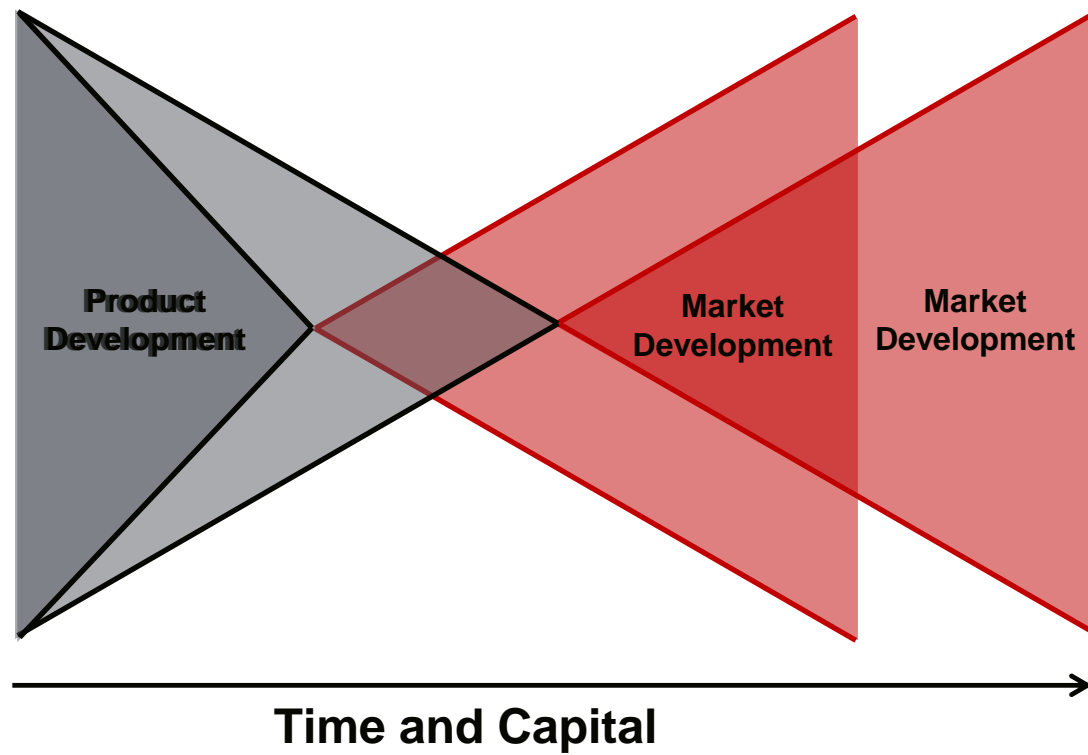
Engaged with



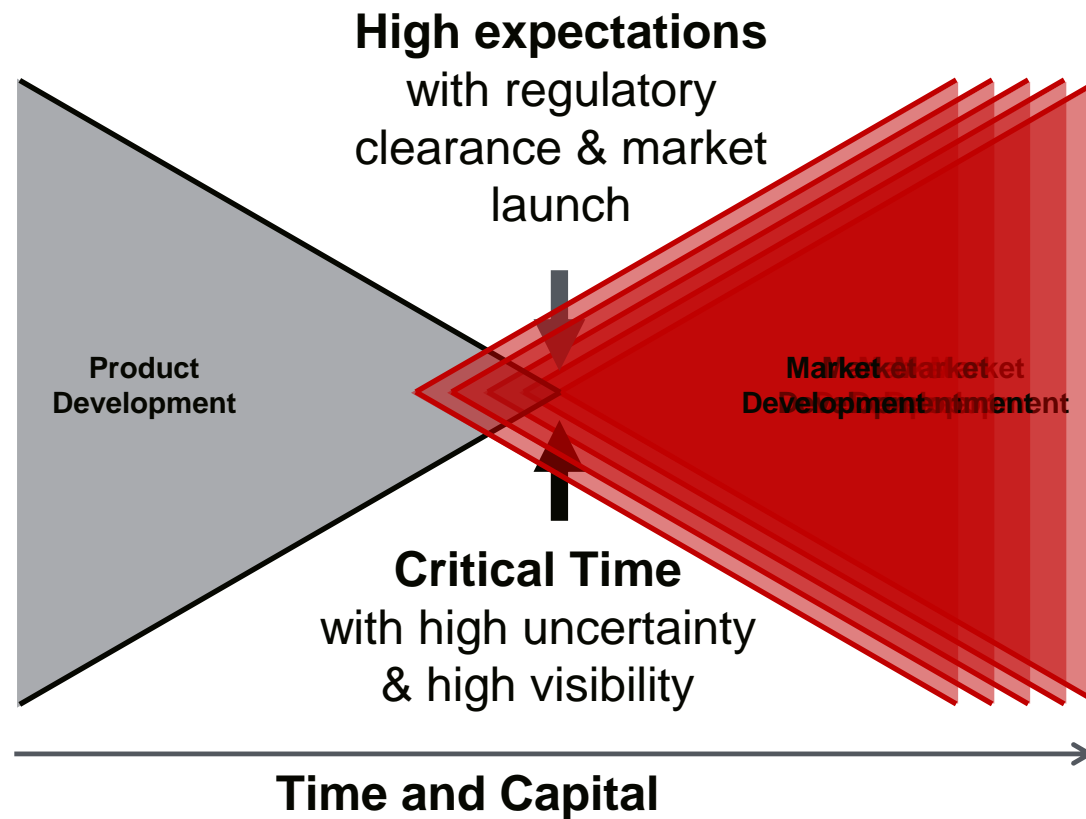
- Primary market research
  - Customer/decision maker interviews
  - Pilot programs
  - MVP release
  - KOL engagement
- Key Insight:  
Unmet Need

➤Exponential improvement in data quality

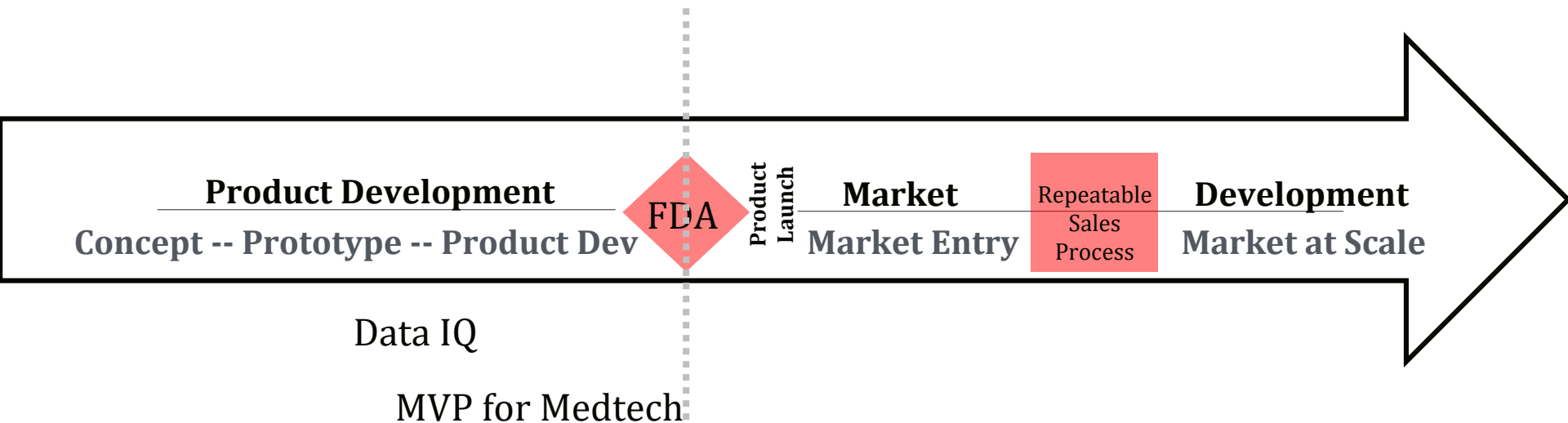
## MVP – Tech Model



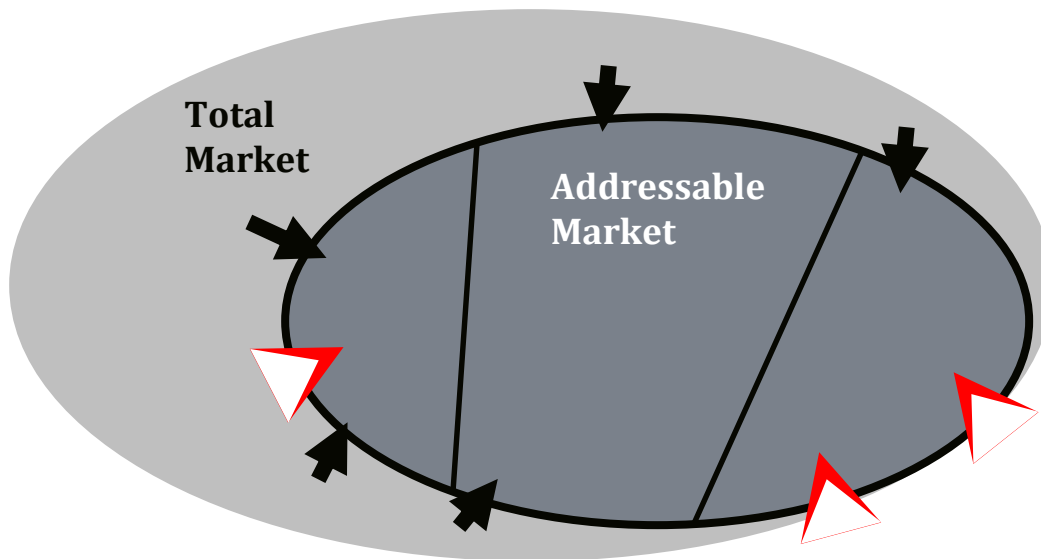
# MVP – Regulated Model



# Product Development & Market Development



# Market Segmentation



## Entry Points

Different from market segmentation

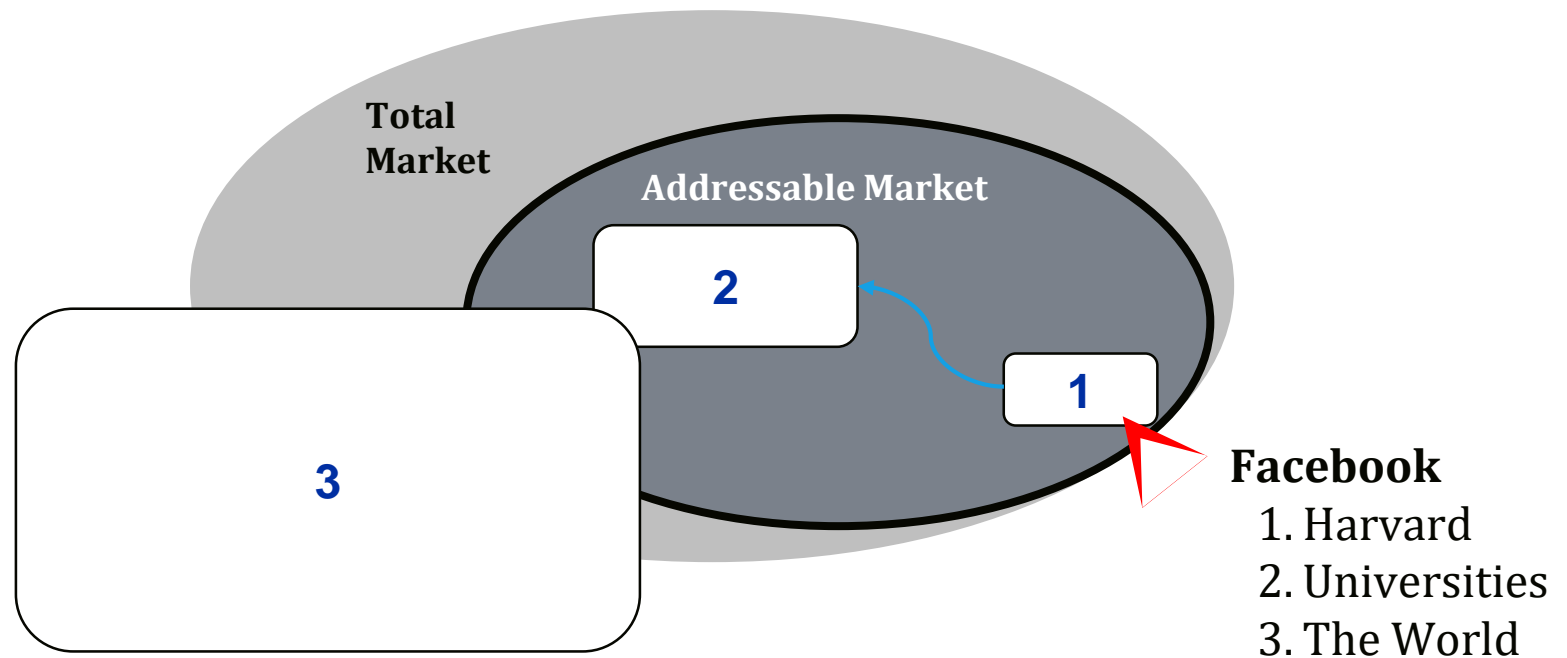
- More refined, more granular
- Bottom up; Not top down
- Assumption to be tested

Target customer; target use

- Specific “buyer” profile
- Very specific use with high pain & high benefit

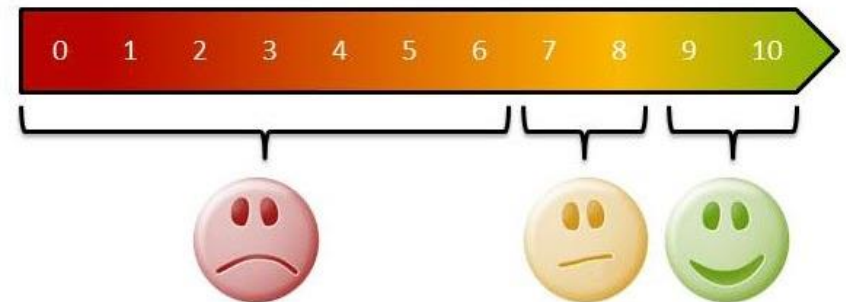
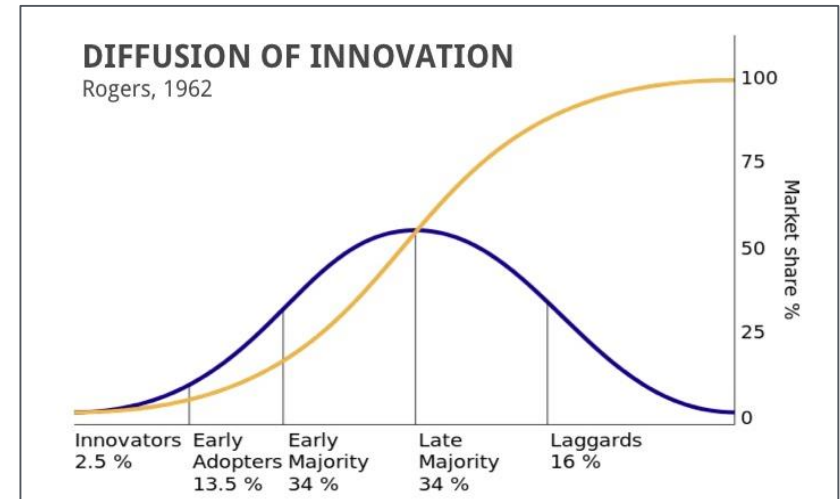
EA

# Entry Points vs. Market Segmentation



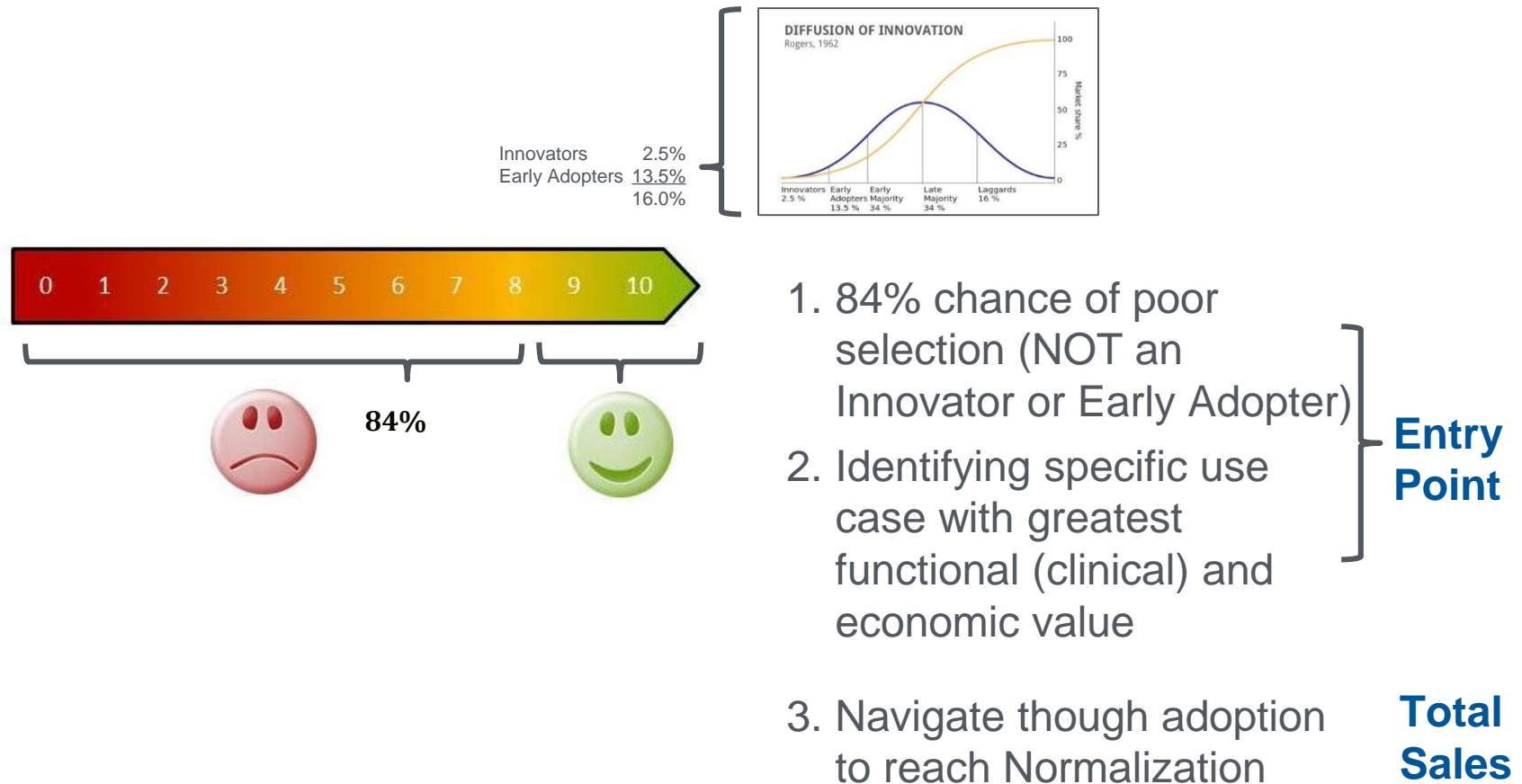
# Who? Smart Revenue

- Shared vision
  - Visionary; risk takers (target customer)
  - Seeking solution to same problem (target use)
- 
- Selection process (not sales to all comers)
  - Antithetical for professional salespeople



# Selection Process

## Probability Weighted Against ... Success

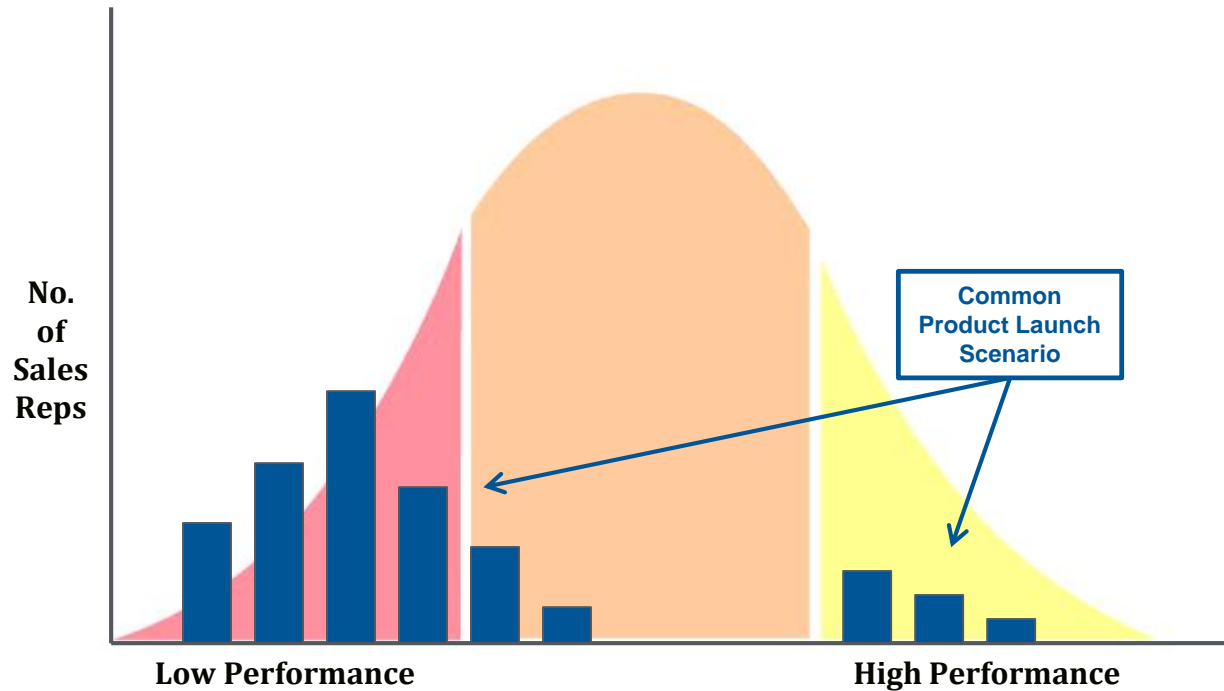




# Healthy Sales Team Performance

## Common Scenario

Not a performance issue --- A leadership & strategy failure



# Who?

Mark Leslie & Charles Holloway, in their 2006 HBR article, The Sales Learning Curve, refer to these specialty salespeople as “renaissance reps”.

## The Process

Very different from professional sales – often diametrically apposed

1. Skillset ... of Professional Market Entry
  - Innate ability plus ... Learned skill set plus ... Experience
  - The cowboys, rebels & troublemakers
  - “the visionary doer” or “the renaissance rep”
2. Hiring
  - Different hiring profile
  - Compensation designed to accommodate risk & team perspective
3. Different Management Style
  - Bottom up; egalitarian



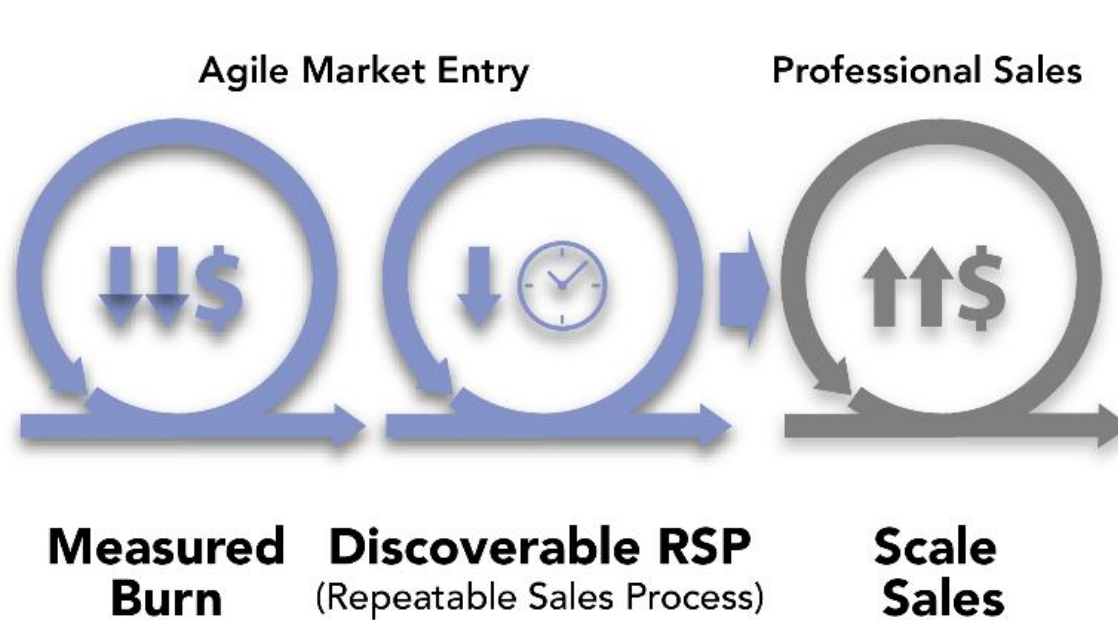
**“fewer people who could operate in a chaotic learning environment, versus a process-driven, execution one.”**

~ Steve Blank's 9/17/2019 blog, [AgileFall - When Waterfall Sneaks Back Into Agile](#)

# Agile Market Entry

An iterative framework that efficiently uncovers and codifies the proven repeatable sales process (RSP) for innovation.

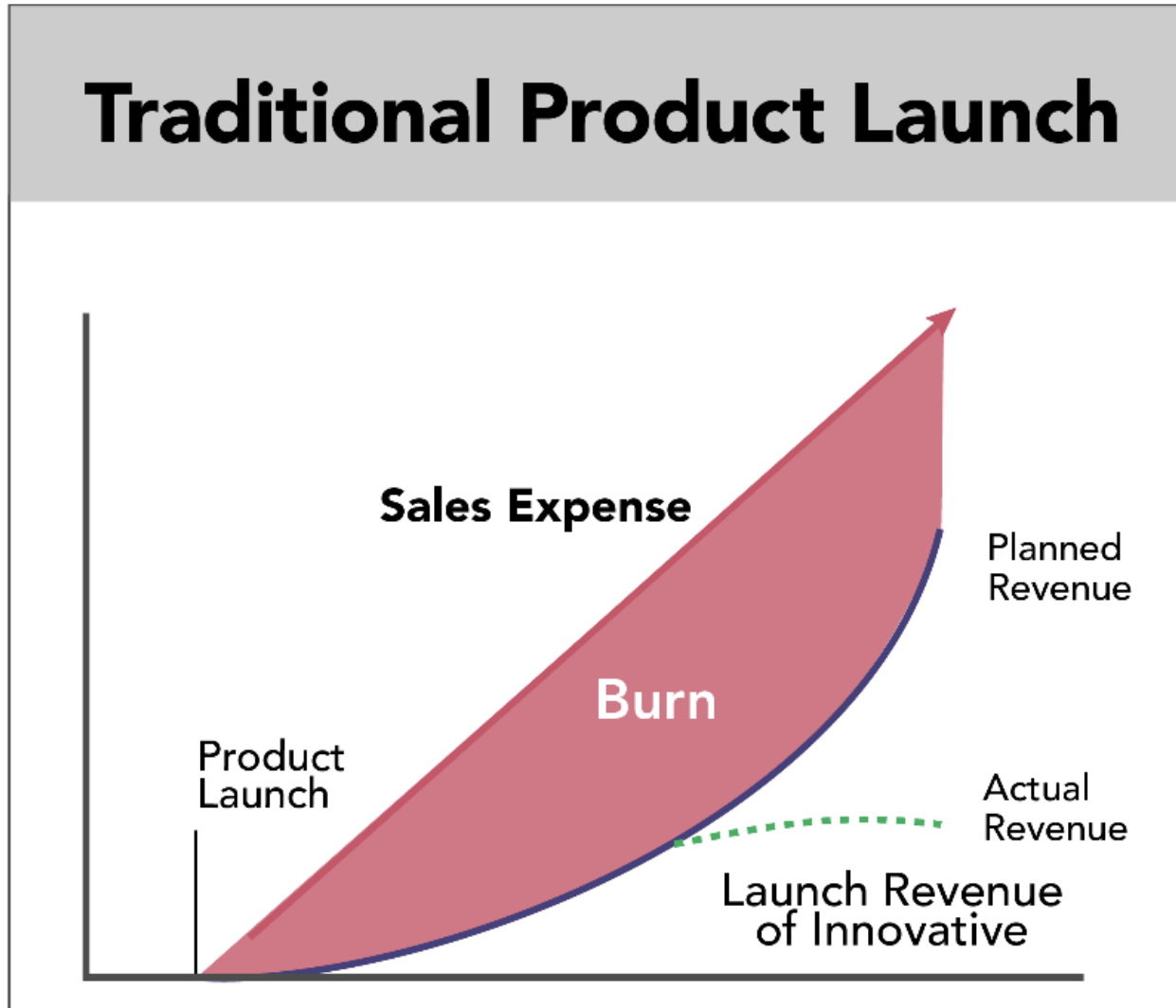
RSP can then be executed by a professional sales organization to scale revenue.



## 4 Ps of AME

- Positioning (Leadership)
- Operating Principles
- Execution Practices
- People

## The Problem – Enormous Costs



# Agile Market Entry

## Benefits of AME

- Measured Burn – reduce early spend
- *TruePath* to growth stage sales and accelerating revenue
- Increase enterprise valuation

## 5x ROI of AME





Thank you for participating



See you at our April 28 program!