



**Pmsa**

PHARMACEUTICAL MANAGEMENT  
SCIENCE ASSOCIATION

# **Evolving Field Sales Planning & Incentive Compensation for Omnichannel Strategy Success**

## **Authors**

Vineet Rathi – Principal, Axtria  
Dan Stewart – Sr. Director, Axtria

# Life Science organizations should ensure that their Field Operations are revamped to enable their Omnichannel strategy



## Background

- Most Life Science organizations are significantly investing and accelerating their Omnichannel readiness programs
- Commercial operations is also moving to a more dynamic and data driven model
- Apart from digital enablement Life science organization need to focus on evolving Field Ops as a part of the Omnichannel strategy

## This presentation covers...

- WHY is transforming Field Ops critical?
- HOW should Field operations workstreams transform?
- WHAT are example approaches from the industry?
- WHAT is the roadmap to transformation?

# Agenda

- Current State of Omnichannel in Industry
- Best Practices for Evolving Field Sales Planning and Incentive Compensation (with Industry Case studies)
- Q&A

# Well orchestrated Omnichannel Customer interactions can unlock significant value





# Hybrid approach (field force and digital) of customer engagement is more effective compared to these in silos



- Despite 5x increase in digital, the Sales force is still the dominant marketing spend for Life Science companies
- Sales forces continue to have the highest impact on sales compared to other channels<sup>1</sup>
- Role and skill set of the Sales rep is evolving from pure demand generation to “Super Rep” involving problem solving and personalized selling
- Hybrid approach (F2F + digital) are more effective compared to these channels in isolation or silos<sup>2</sup>

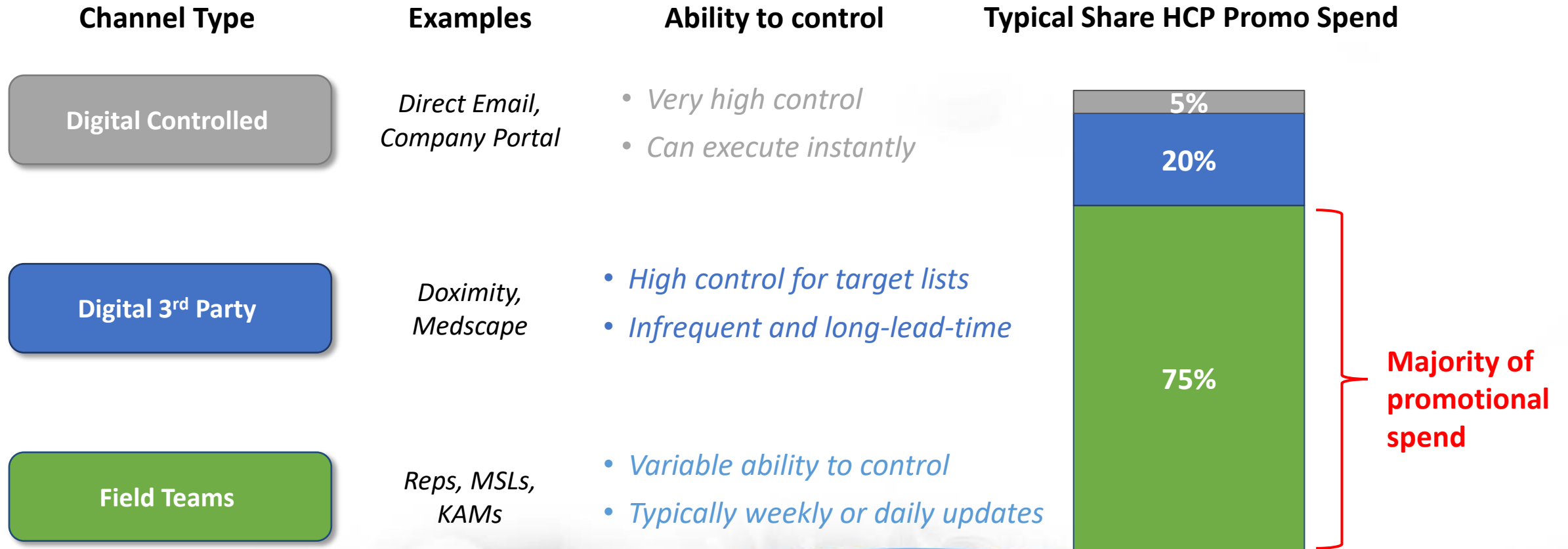
As Life science organizations enable their omnichannel strategy, it is critical to transform the **Field Operations to ensure success of Omnichannel programs**

<sup>1</sup> Source: Axtia Marketing Mix Modelling results database analysis, Global studies 2019-2022

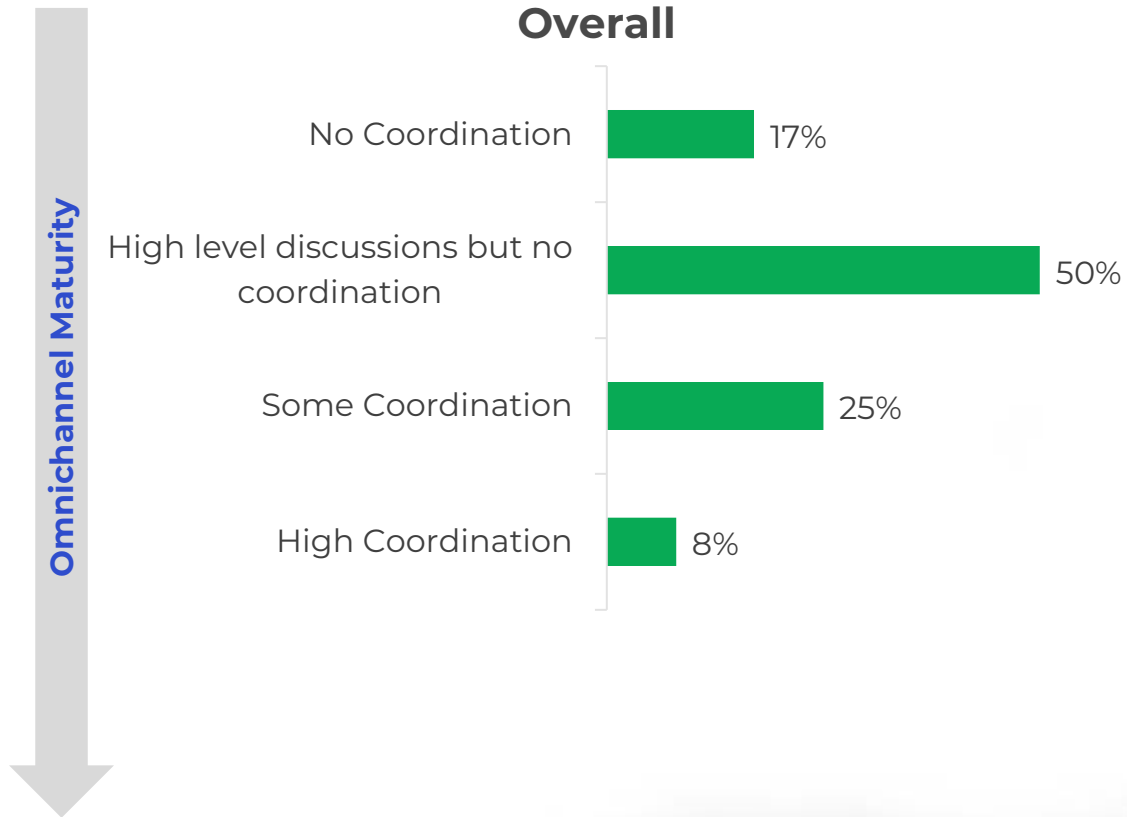
<sup>2</sup> Source: Axtia Marketing Mix and Sales Impact Analysis

# As organizations progress along omnichannel transformations, **Field teams' adoption is essential** for program success

## Omnichannel Program 'Last Mile' Channels and Typical Spend



# Omnichannel Readiness: Industry is still at nascent stage



Integration of planning approaches between the Field and NPP is still nascent for **67%** of companies

Source: Axtia benchmarking survey 2022-23

# Field reps of successful companies have more complex omnichannel needs

## Expectations from the Rep of Today

### Patient focus



- Understand patient journeys and healthcare ecosystem
- **Identify issues / bottlenecks** to treatment initiation / adherence
- Work across multi disciplinary roles to provide solutions

### Customer centric



- **Know their customers'** workflows, preferences, and needs
- Reduce customers' workload and stress through **problem solving**
- Coordinate across roles to provide 'White-glove' **customer experience**

### Omnichannel planning



- Understand **market** and **customers**
- **Support** data and insights collection about customers
- **Plan omnichannel customer engagements / journeys**

### Tech savvy



- **Engage** their customers in new ways using digital channels
- Leverage **data and analytics** to be more effective & efficient

**Field Operations and Platforms will need to evolve to enhance the rep's success in a more complex omnichannel role**



# Agenda

- Current State of Omnichannel in Industry
- Best Practices for Evolving Field Sales Planning and Incentive Compensation (with Industry Case studies)
- Q&A

# Field operations need to transform across following dimensions to ensure omnichannel success



1. Advanced Segmentation
2. Evolved Territory Alignment
3. Omnichannel Call Planning
4. Quotas & Incentives to drive Omni Success
5. Omnichannel Ready Platform

# Segmentation will need to become more customized and dynamic to enable Omnichannel customer engagement

	Current	Omnichannel
Segmentation Drivers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Traditional segmentation</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Customer profile (specialty, demographics)</li><li>• Potential (Rx, Patient volume)</li><li>• Adoption (Market share)</li><li>• Access (No See accounts)</li><li>• Influence (KOL)</li></ul></li></ul>	<p>Traditional+ <b>more granular micro segments that help customize messaging and engagement</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Channel preference/score</li><li>• Customer Journey / Adoption ladder</li><li>• Customer Behavior /Attitude</li><li>• Barriers (community, payer etc.)</li><li>• Propensity (through recent Rx/APLD data)</li><li>• Health system affiliation</li><li>• Patient journey and touch point with HCP</li><li>• Advanced micro-segments driven by ML models</li></ul>
Segmentation Refresh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Static:</b> Infrequent refreshes (Annual, Quarterly)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Dynamic :</b> Frequent refreshes based on recent data</li></ul>

# Dynamic scores and segments can be leveraged to optimize channel mix and messages over time

Illustrative

Omnichannel channel journey with orchestrated messages

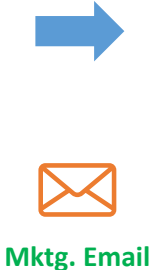
Dr. Maria Gonzalez Customer Journey



Dynamic Scores & Segs	Product A
Target Tier	Gold
Adoption Ladder	Aware
F2F daily priority score	100
Mktg Email daily score	40
Digital daily priority score	40
Sales Rep Best Message	PULSE Study
Company Portal Content	Content A



Score/Seg	Product A
Target Tier	Gold
Adoption	Aware
F2F	10 ↓↓
Email	80 ↑↑
Digital	40
Best Msg	PULSE Study
Portal	Content A



Score/Seg	Product A
Target Tier	Gold
Adoption	Aware
F2F	30 ↑
Email	20 ↓↓
Digital	60 ↑
Best Msg	Phase 3 Trial
Portal	Content C



Score/Seg	Product A
Target Tier	Gold
Adoption	Trialing
F2F	50 ↑
Email	45 ↑
Digital	95 ↑↑
Best Msg	Phase 3 Trial
Portal	Content C



Sales call



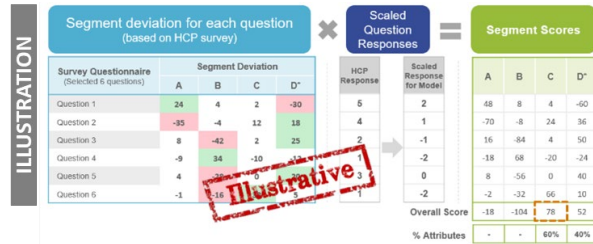
Mktg. Email



# Case Studies: Advanced Segmentation

1

## Real time HCP Behavioral Segmentation



### APPROACH

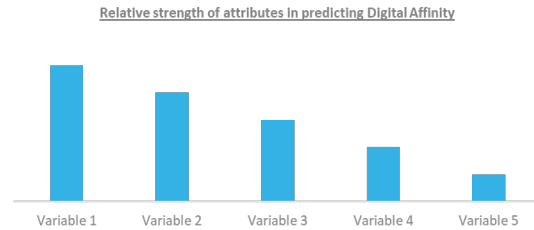
- Implemented **real time dynamic segmentation** based on field profiling of doctors

### IMPACT

- Segmentation now captures HCPs engagement preferences (e.g. relationship building, learning etc.)
- Enabled more customized customer engagement

2

## HCP segments based on digital affinity



### APPROACH

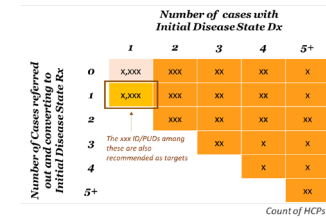
- Analyzed digital response of HCPs based on their attributes
- Developed **digital response segments**

### IMPACT

- Reallocation of digital promotion effort to the right HCP groups
- Improved digital customer engagement

3

## Patient centric segmentation approach



### APPROACH

- Segmented HCPs' based on breadth of involvement along the patient journey (diagnosing, treating, choice of regimens etc.)

### IMPACT

- Micro segments based on disease state involvement
- Reallocation of effort and messaging based on these micro segments

# Field operations need to transform across these following dimensions to ensure omnichannel success



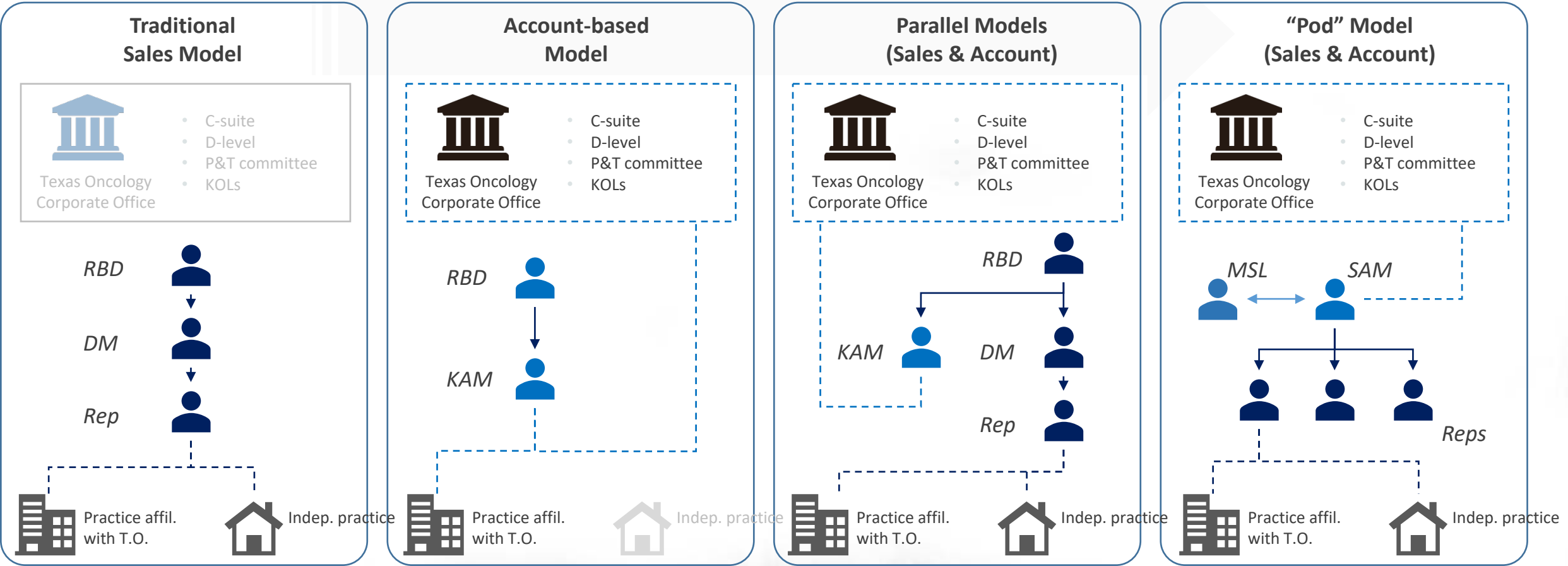
1. Advanced Segmentation
2. Evolved Territory Alignment
3. Omnichannel Call Planning
4. Quotas & Incentives to drive Omni Success
5. OmniChannel Ready Platform

# Deployment models need to be more dynamic and collaborative to enable Omnichannel engagement

	Current	Omnichannel
Field Deployment Models	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Traditional sales and account-based deployment models</li><li>Siloed deployments across field roles</li><li>Workload index based on F2F engagement</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Parallel and Pod models</li><li>Customer and patient centric deployment</li><li>Omnichannel alignment integrating across field roles</li><li>Workload index capturing multi channel activity, channel affinity/preference scores, patient potential etc.</li></ul>
Alignment Refresh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Cycle Refresh</b> (Quarter, Semester)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Agile:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Continuous workload balancing</li><li>On demand refresh based on collaboration and ecosystem needs</li></ul></li></ul>
Technology Enablement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Rep recorded calls made by them/ their mirrors</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Ability for reps in the pod to refer to any shared notes/activity on the customer</li></ul>

# Evolution of Customer Engagement Models

Degree of empowerment  
Higher efficiency / superior coordination  
Opportunity & equity of opportunity



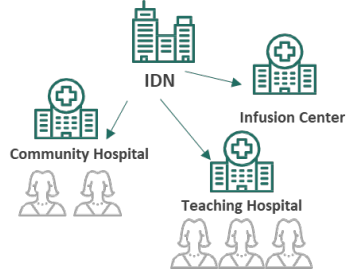

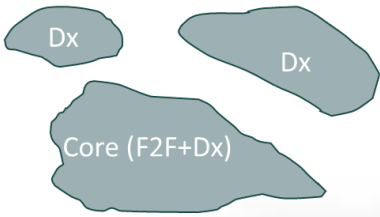
More “Traditional”

More “Novel”



# Evolved deployments are critical to ensure a collaborative omnichannel customer experience

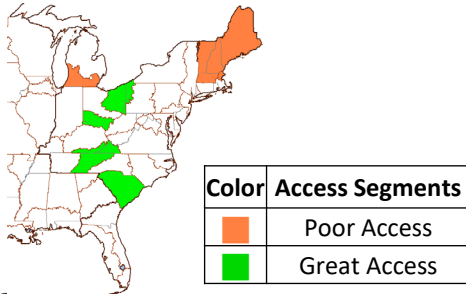
## Benefits

<b>Customer and Patient Centric Alignment</b>	 <p>Customer hierarchy and influence networks organized as ecosystems</p> <p>Patient potential KPI for alignments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Align field roles with ecosystem</li> <li>• React faster to ecosystem changes</li> </ul>
<b>Quarterback Role</b>	 <p>Quarterback is the central point of contact for customer within a larger ecosystem</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Field coaching through quarterback</li> <li>• Enhanced coordination</li> </ul>
<b>Hybrid Territories</b>	 <p>CORE geography for hybrid engagement (F2F+Dx) and an extended geography for pure digital engagement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flexible coverage model</li> <li>• Higher customer reach</li> </ul>

# Case Studies: Evolved Territory Alignment

1

## Incorporating HCP channel preference to determine workload



### APPROACH

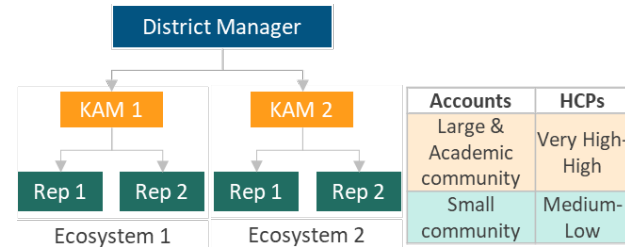
- Territory workload was re-calculated based on HCP channel preference and access
- Multiple data sources were used to assess HCP preference – Industry affinity data, field feedback, field execution.

### IMPACT

- Territories were optimized based on multichannel workload

2

## Quarterback KAM Role deployment



### APPROACH

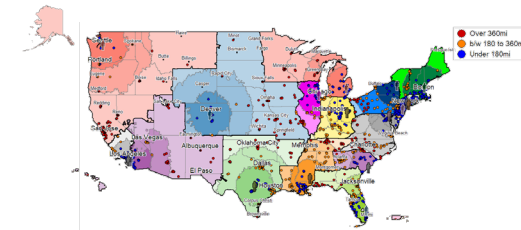
- Oncology franchise deployed **quarterback KAM** role
- Enabled ecosystems where KAM and specialty reps collaborate
- KAM index include target and managerial workload which designing territories

### IMPACT

- Superior customer centric experience

3

## Hybrid territories



### APPROACH

- Segmented territories into 3 buckets based on the drive distance –
  - F2F ( $\leq X$  mi)
  - Hybrid - Optimized f2F vs Virtual effort ( $> X$  mi &  $\leq Y$  mi)
  - Virtual except few high value targets ( $> Y$  mi)

### IMPACT

- Optimized field execution (F2F vs Virtual) based on physician value and travel distance

# Field operations need to transform across these following dimensions to ensure omnichannel success



1. Advanced Segmentation
2. Evolved Territory Alignment
3. Omnichannel Call Planning
4. Quotas & Incentives to drive Omni Success
5. Omnichannel Ready Platform

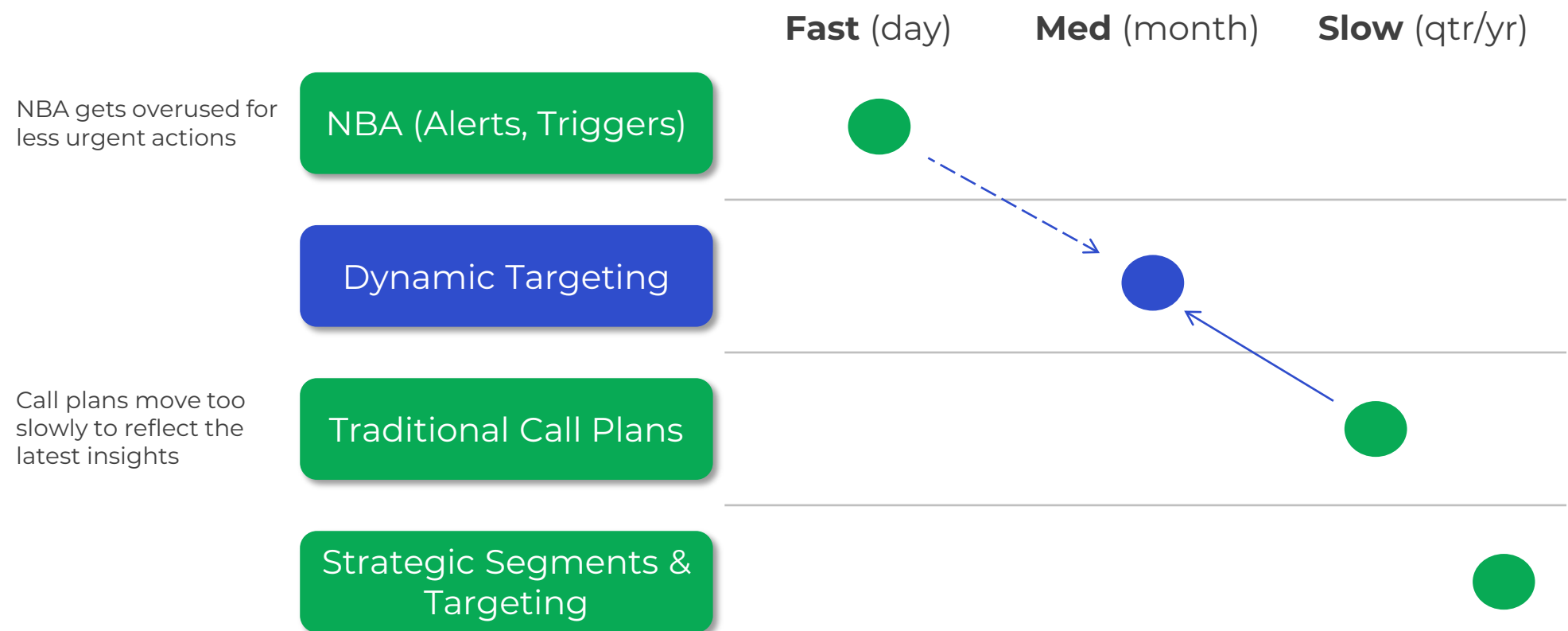
# Targeting and activity planning will need to be more dynamic and agile to enable Omnichannel strategy

	Current	Omnichannel
Activity Plan Generation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cycle Single channel activity plans generation</li><li>• Optimize only Sales force engagement</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Multi channel call plan generation adjusted for marketing and digital channels</li><li>• Optimized customer engagement based on customer journeys</li></ul>
Field Refinement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Field review and refinement at start of cycle</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Always on updates by field</li><li>• Visibility to activity by other marketing channels</li></ul>
Plan Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cycle based updates</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dynamic Targeting: Regular (Monthly/Weekly) update of multi channel cycle plan</li><li>• AI/ML driven NBA suggestions</li><li>• Customer leads based on patient data analysis</li></ul>



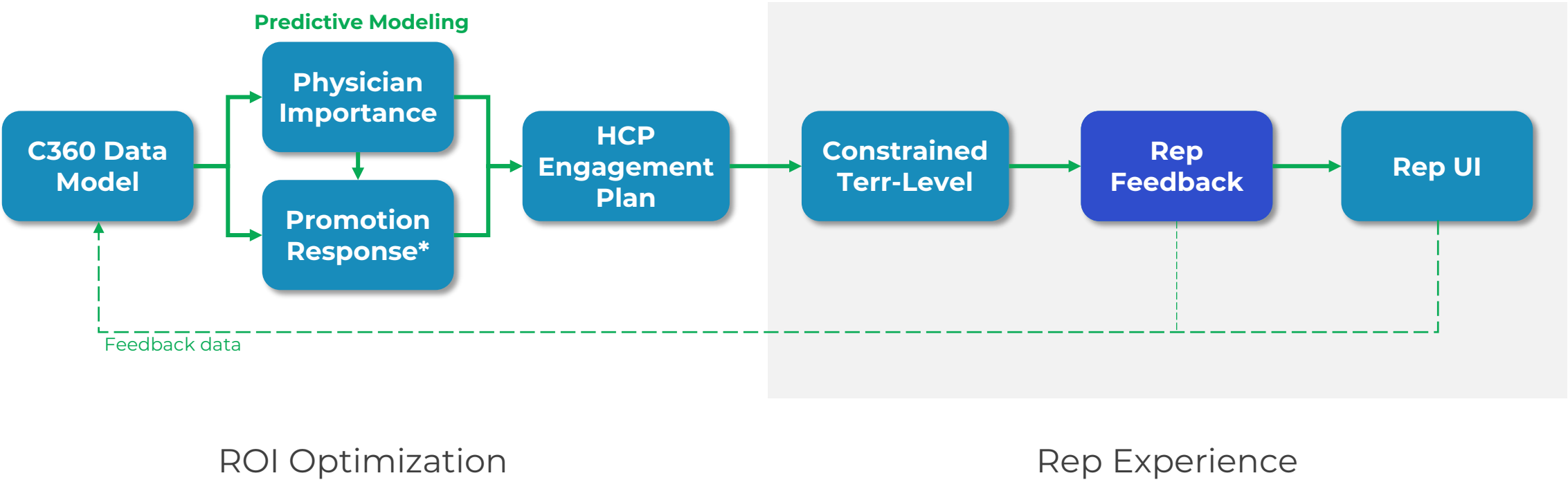
# Dynamic Targeting addresses needs between the urgent actions and slower strategic targeting

## Targeting paradigm vs. speed of insights



# Success in Dynamic Targeting requires both ML algorithms and a great rep experience

## Dynamic Targeting operational workflow

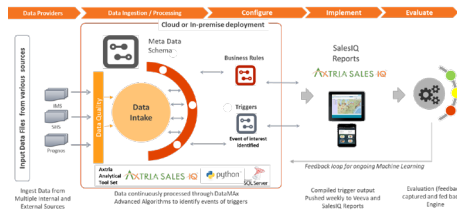


\*short term

# Case Studies: Omnichannel Engagement Planning

1

## Dynamic Targeting for rare disease franchise



### APPROACH

- Provided **dynamic targeting triggers** based on new patient identification using claims, lab, and affiliations data
- Axtria's SalesIQ platform leveraged to provide timely, transparent information to field

### IMPACT

- Flexible to changing business needs
- **30% lift in patient enrollments** within 6 months of rollout

2

## Continuous Field Intelligence Tool for Top 10 Pharma



### APPROACH

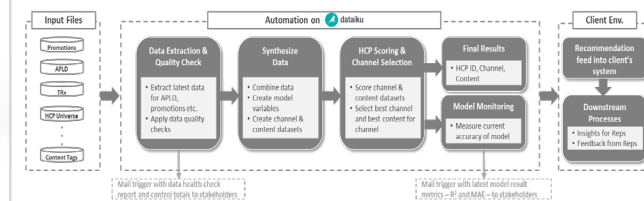
- Enabled **always On refinement feedback** from field
- Provided additional insights on HCP preferences and prescribing behavior
- **Weekly call plan refresh** in commercial planning and data systems including CRM

### IMPACT

- Personalized multi-channel call plans for all underperforming HCPs and reps

3

## Integrated omnichannel promotion optimization engine



### APPROACH

- Enabled automated **Dynamic, omnichannel suggestions personalized for all HCPs**
- ML models used to provide best channel and best content

### IMPACT

- High adoption by field force
- **4-5% Rx uplift**

# Field operations need to transform across these following dimensions to ensure omnichannel success

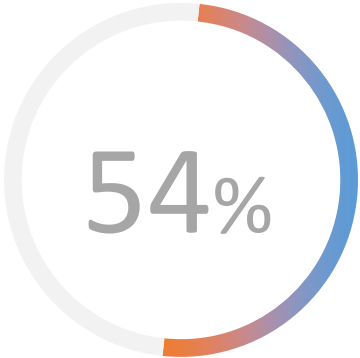


1. Advanced Segmentation
2. Evolved Territory Alignment
3. Omnichannel Call Planning
4. Quotas & Incentives to drive Omni Success
5. OmniChannel Ready Platform



# Factors Contributing to Challenges With Omnichannel Success

% of Pharma Executives Cited These Factors as Challenges to Omnichannel Success



54%

Change  
Management



48%

Skills and  
Experience



47%

Current Org  
Structure



47%

Alignment  
With Teams

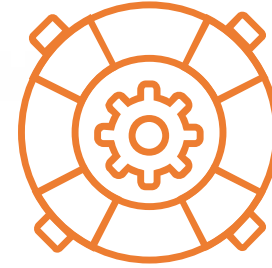
# Key Elements for Driving Change Management



Leadership  
Support



Field  
Motivation



Field  
Enablement

# Crucial Role of Incentives to Drive Employee Engagement and Organizational Transformation Outcomes

**5x**

Increase in Excess  
Shareholder Return

Companies using financial incentives tied to transformation outcomes achieved on average ~5x increase in total excess shareholder returns – *McKinsey*

**22%**

Increase in Engagement and  
Motivation

Effective incentive programs using tangible awards increase employee engagement and motivation by 22% on average – *Incentive Research Foundation*

# Crucial Role of Incentives to Drive Employee Engagement and Organizational Transformation Outcomes

Financial incentives that reward both execution and organizational health have the greatest impact.

Average 24-month excess TSR compared with relevant sector and geographic index,<sup>1</sup> %



<sup>1</sup>N = 60 companies.

<sup>2</sup>Organizational Health Index.  
Source: McKinsey analysis

1

Axtria benchmarking study on IC design shows teams following best practices on average perform 2%–6% better on forecast achievement

2

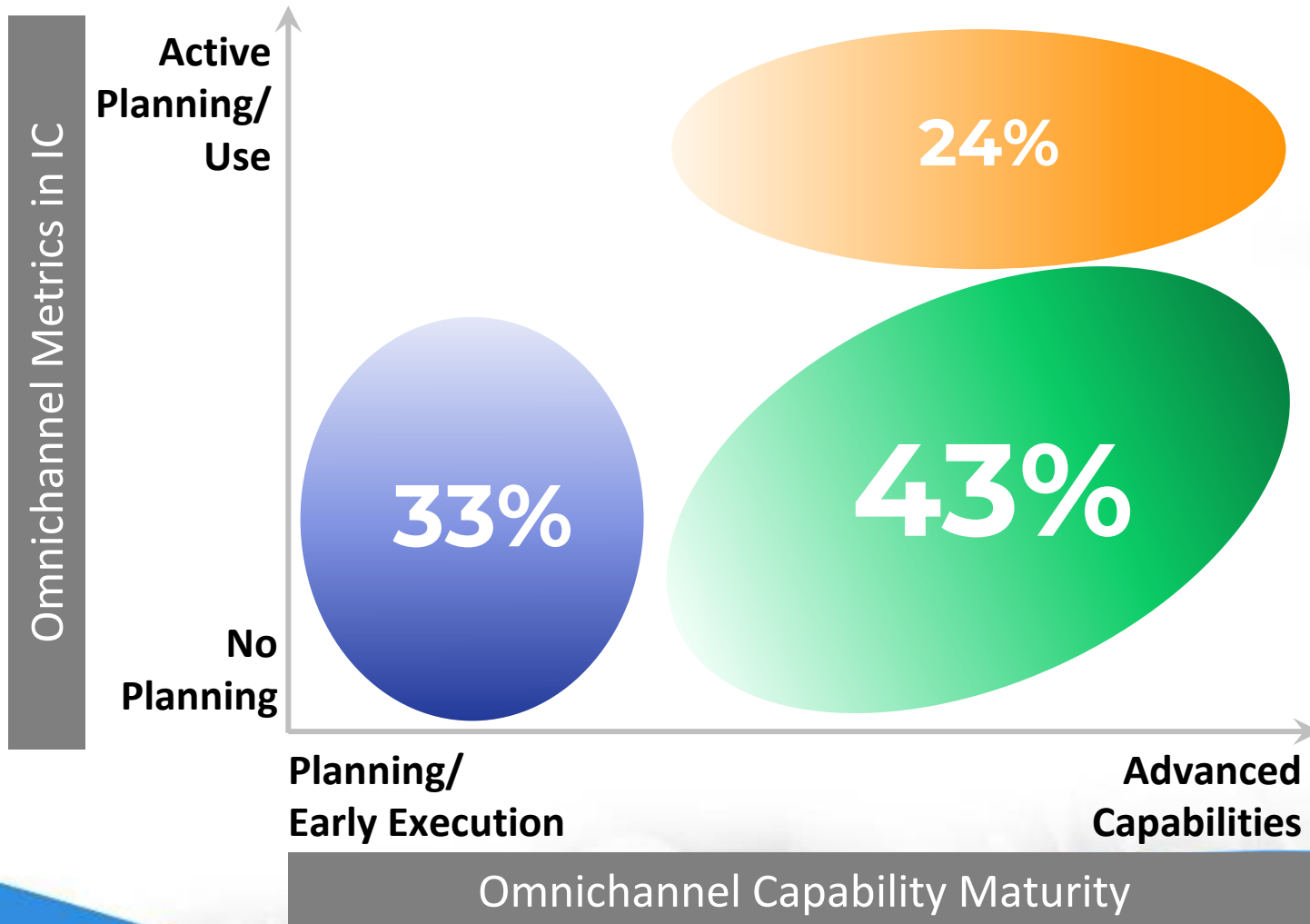
Axtria survey of pharmaceutical commercial leaders shows 100% believe IC to be a very important lever to achieve commercial success and 90% identified IC as the key lever for driving field execution and achievement of strategic objectives

3

Incentive Research Foundation study showed IC programs increase motivation and engagement on average 22% when used effectively

# Yet, Use of Incentives for Driving Omnichannel Change is Low

Approximately 25% of organizations in the study are either actively planning to use or are actively using omnichannel engagement metrics in at least one team's IC plans



- Organizations that are currently incentivizing OR are actively planning to incentivize at least one Field team on Omnichannel activity/engagement metric(s)
- Typically being used today with specific teams and/or on a smaller pilot scale



- Omnichannel capabilities exist, and the use of metrics in Field IC is being (or has been) considered
- Includes advanced Omnichannel capability organizations who have explored omni adoption in IC but are not currently pursuing



- Prioritizing development of foundational omnichannel capabilities and program before active planning on potential to measure and incentivize Field on omnichannel metrics



# Primary Reasons Cited for Not Incentivizing Field for Omnichannel



1

Want to wait to see how OC develops

2

Don't want to pay for activity, unsure what else to try

3

Can't measure performance or true outcome



**pmsa**  
PHARMACEUTICAL MANAGEMENT  
SCIENCE ASSOCIATION

# Key considerations when introducing omnichannel metrics into Field IC plans

**Pilot**

**vs.**

**Broad Rollout**

- Smaller scale rollouts and pilots can be effective in testing use cases and getting key Field / Sales leadership feedback
- Requirement on metric confidence goes up with broad rollout

**Team**

**vs.**

**Individual**

- Small team (w/in FLSM) metrics can increase social learning and responsibility, while also placing a FLSM as accountable for ensuring adoption and accuracy of tracking activity

**Contest / Rewards**

**vs.**

**Core IC Plan**

- Use of metrics outside of core IC, or as upside for those already achieving core IC goals, can reduce uneasiness of Field
- Better comfort of IC budget utilization on business impact metrics

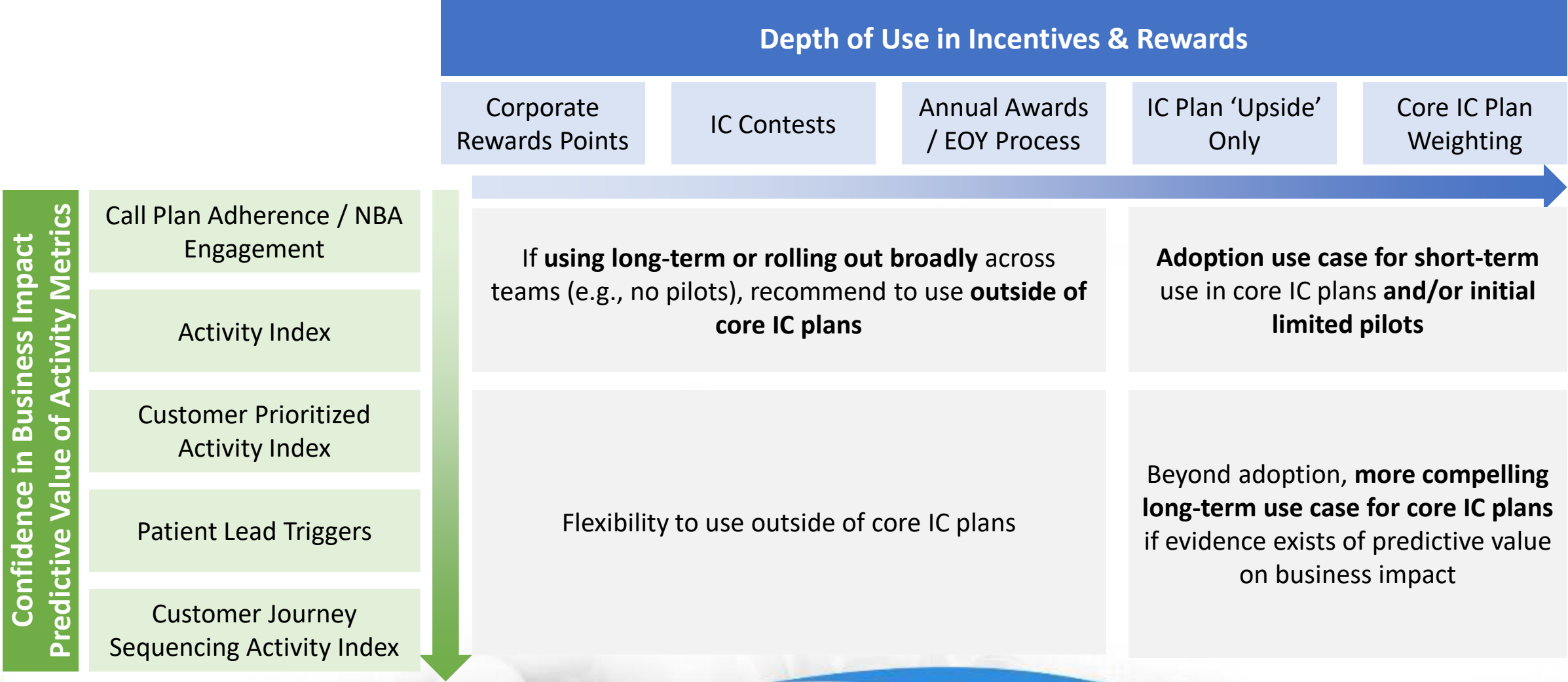
**Strategic Activity OR  
Engagement/Impact**

**vs.**

**Activity**

- Strictly activity-based metrics (without reference to customer prioritization or activity sequencing) have challenges for use in IC beyond initial adoption of new tools and ways of working

# Framework for effectively using omnichannel activity metrics in IC and rewards programs

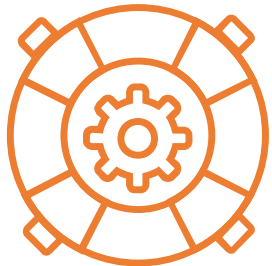


# Progression From Activity Based to Omnichannel Outcomes Based



1

How to define outcomes – Measurable improvement in engagement and experience



2

Characteristics and KPIs for engagement and experience

3

Mechanisms for tracking data and enabling tracking of such KPIs



4

Linking KPIs to tangible incentives

# Case Study: Design & implementation of global incentive framework at Top 5 Pharma to drive omnichannel strategic objectives

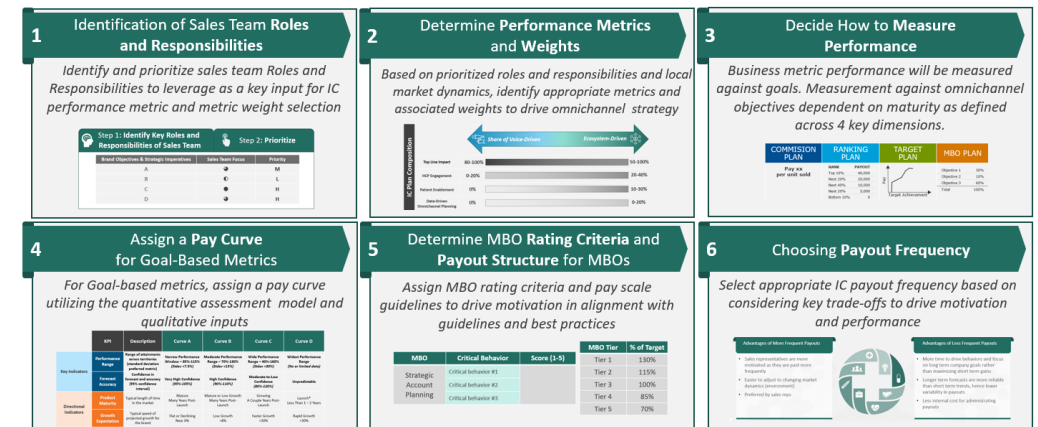
## SITUATION

- Transformation of field team roles and responsibilities at Top 5 Pharma Client to support evolving market dynamics and drive competitive advantage
- Incentive Compensation identified as a key lever to drive field execution and achievement of omnichannel strategic objectives
- Tasked with designing and rolling out a Global Framework to support the successful enablement of this transformational strategic move

## APPROACH

- Conducted **executive interviews** to understand corporate **Omnichannel strategic objectives** and assess **local market readiness**
- Leveraged **global benchmarking** to generate a robust **library of IC Metrics** aligned to new field force focus areas and competencies
- Developed practical **6-step global IC design framework** driving **Omnichannel objectives** while providing **regional flexibility** to tailor plans based on local market strategy and operating environment
- Phased framework roll-out** to select pilot markets for feedback incorporation prior to complete global rollout

Plan	HCP Interaction				
Understand Customer	Orchestration of HCP Engagement Plans	Optimize interactions with HCPs relative to defined customer journeys considering the number of interactions, channel of engagement, sequencing of interactions, and synchronization with cross-functional teams and non-personal promotion.	Metrics	Overall count of HCP Interactions Reach and frequency	Count of calls by Channel Reach and Frequency by channel
	Value of Interactions	Maximize value demonstrated in HCP interactions through leveraging relevant content and information opportunistically and effectively applying selling skills, scientific knowledge, and channel fluency.	Metrics	Qualitative Assessment through planning sessions and manager observations	Behavioral simulations of HCP Interaction Knowledge assessments
Develop Customer	Contribution to Patient		Requirements (additive)	Consistent and accurate call activity data	Call activity data by Channel
	Contribution to Patient		Requirements (additive)	CRM call activity and coaching call data (to aid in qualitative assessment)	Resources and planning to execute simulations / knowledge assessments
Develop Customer	Contribution to Patient		Requirements (additive)	Qualitative Assessment through planning sessions and manager observations	Behavioral simulations of HCP Interaction Knowledge assessments
	Contribution to Patient		Requirements (additive)	CRM call activity and coaching call data (to aid in qualitative assessment)	Resources and planning to execute simulations / knowledge assessments





# Field operations need to transform across these following dimensions to ensure omnichannel success



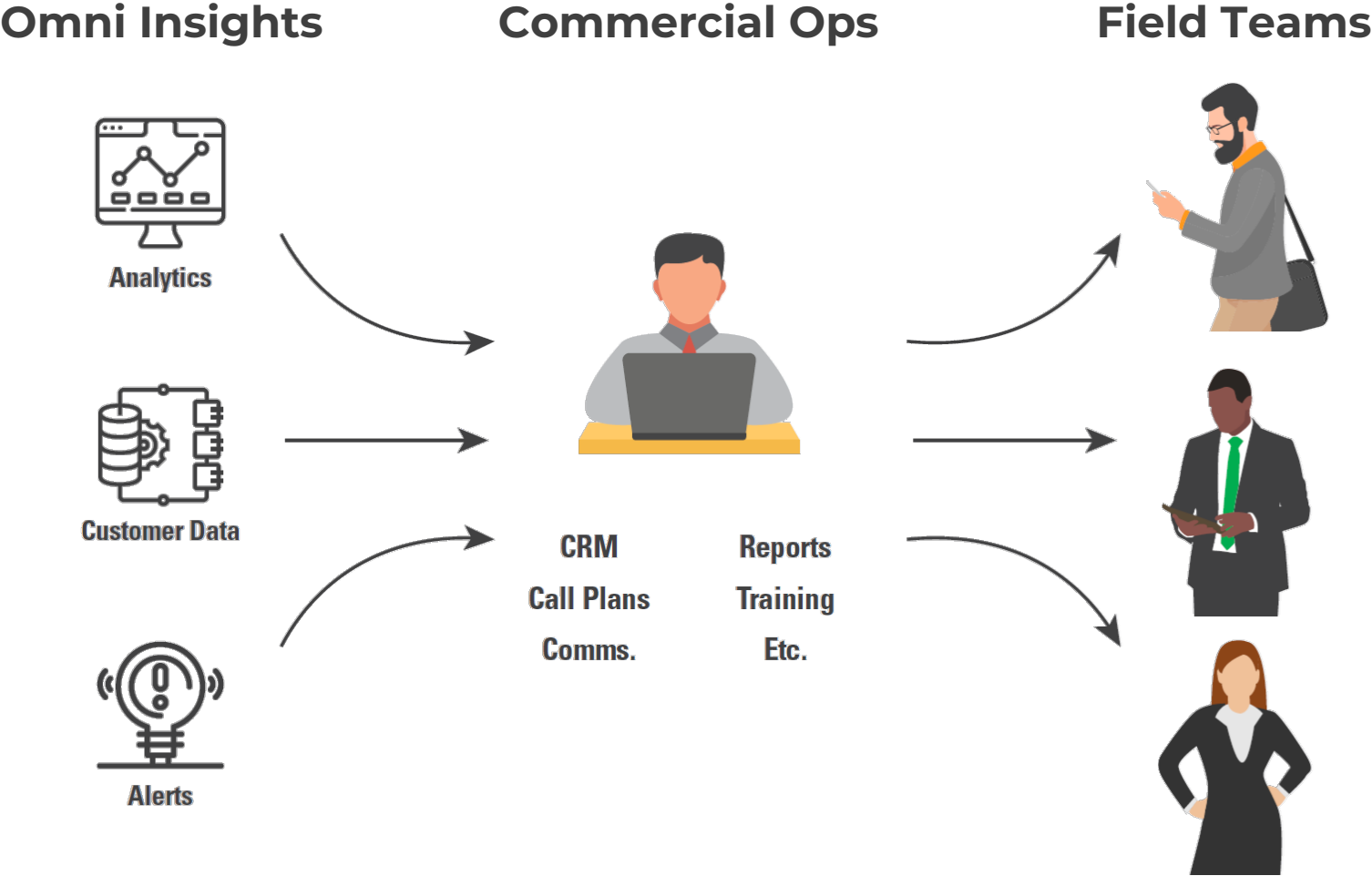
1. Advanced Segmentation
2. Evolved Territory Alignment
3. Omnichannel Call Planning
4. Quotas & Incentives to drive Omni Success
5. Omnichannel Ready Platform

# Omnichannel programs need careful planning to overcome mistrust of the algorithms

## The fear: computer control



# Commercial Ops teams need to ensure complex omnichannel programs are easy for field teams to use



# Integrated Omnichannel ready platform is critical to enable Omnichannel strategy and collaboration

End-to-End Integrated Sales Planning And Operations Solution

## DIGITIZED INTEGRATED SALES PLANNING AND INCENTIVES

- Support evolved customer centric deployments

- Create a personalized **Omnichannel interaction plan** backed by data driven intelligence
- **Dynamic targeting capability**

- Intelligent personalized insights
- Customer360 view

OMNICHANNEL  
SEGMENTATION  
& TARGETING

TERRITORY  
ALIGNMENT

ROSTER

OMNICHANNEL  
CALL PLANNING

QUOTAS &  
INCENTIVES

Field Intelligence

- Include advanced Omnichannel dimensions
- Support Dynamic Segments and Scores

Manage all evolved Omnichannel field roles

- Support Omnichannel IC metrics
- Advanced MBO capabilities

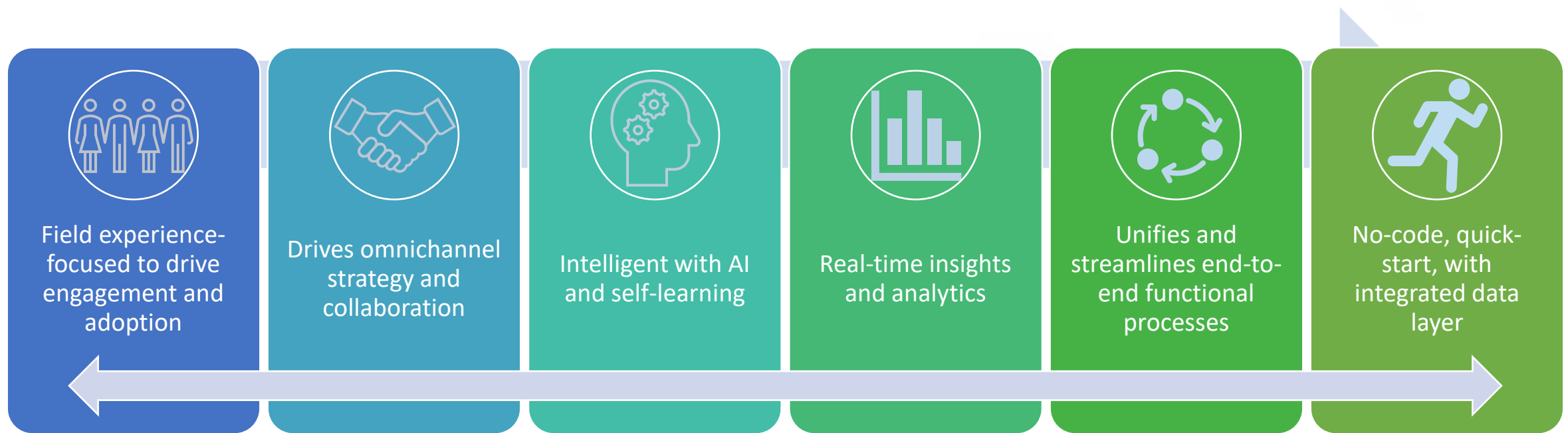
## BENEFITS

- ✓ One stop Shop for field/HQ users
- ✓ Smart Omnichannel execution with embedded Analytics
- ✓ Self-service Omnichannel Collaboration
- ✓ Agility – adapt quickly to market

# Characteristics of the Modern Platform

Omnichannel Enabled Commercial Platform

## End-to-end Integrated Omnichannel Sales Planning and Execution





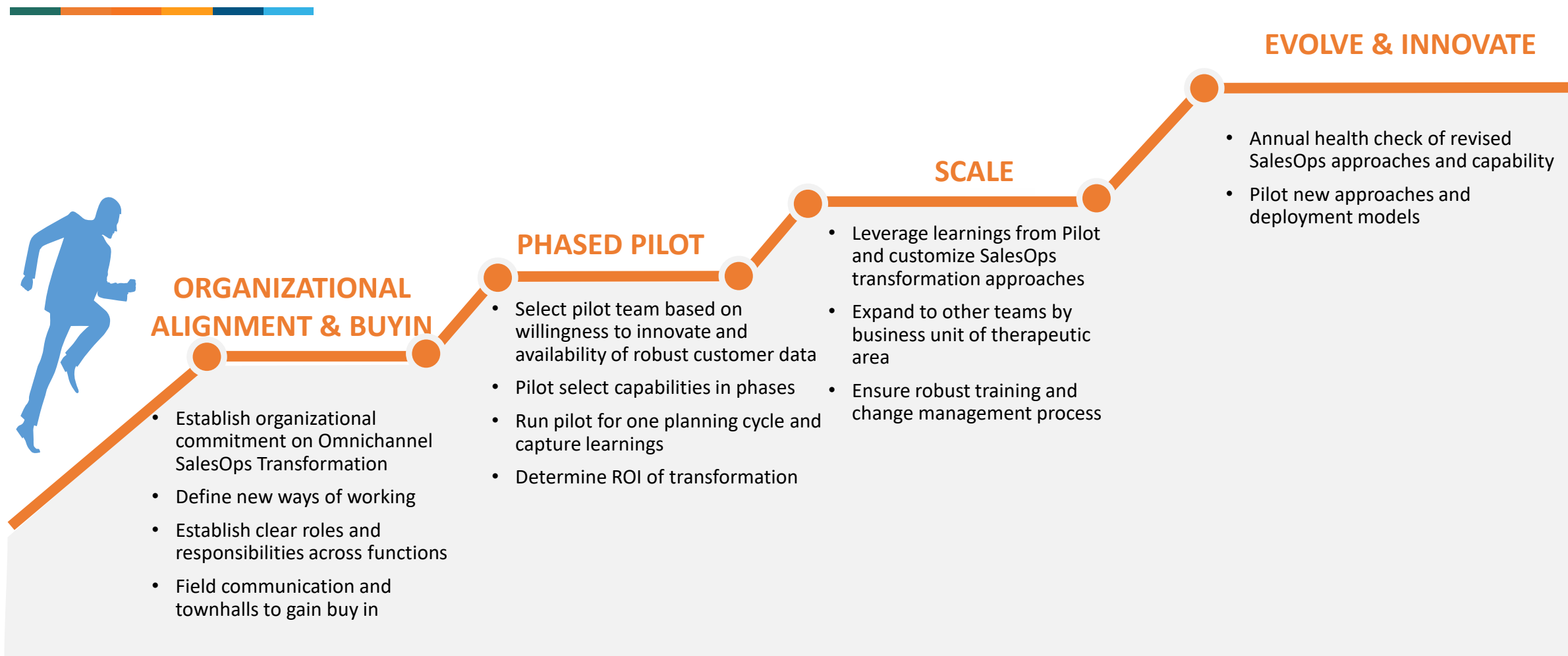


# Roadmap for Pharma Field Ops



**pmsa**  
PHARMACEUTICAL MANAGEMENT  
SCIENCE ASSOCIATION

# ORGANIZATIONS CAN CONSIDER A PHASED APPROACH TO TRANSFORMING FIELD OPS TO ENABLE OMNICHANNEL SUCCESS





**Pmsa**

PHARMACEUTICAL MANAGEMENT  
SCIENCE ASSOCIATION

**THANK YOU!**

**Authors**

Vineet Rathi – Principal, Axtria

Dan Stewart – Sr. Director, Axtria