

Press release of 19 August 2019

Groupe Mutuel launches a new insurance model in partnership with Amavita, Sun Store and Coop Vitality pharmacies

Martigny, 19 August 2019. To meet customer expectations, Groupe Mutuel is launching a new alternative basic health insurance model. With PrimaPharma, customers will benefit from the expertise of Amavita, Sun Store or Coop Vitality pharmacies in order to receive prior advice in the event of a health problem and pharmacists will provide guidance to insured persons on the medical steps to be taken. Therefore, insured persons will benefit from the expertise of their pharmacist as first point of contact.

Statistically, Switzerland lacks family doctors and people consider their pharmacist to be a trusted interlocutor for minor health problems. Moreover, the role of pharmacists in basic healthcare is expected to become increasingly important, in line with the Swiss Federal Council's strategy "Santé2020". Based on these facts, Groupe Mutuel has decided to work together with Amavita, Sun Store and Coop Vitality pharmacies to introduce the new insurance model PrimaPharma. This model is based on the provision of quality services that benefit from the expertise of pharmacists. *"It is important that we contribute to the Swiss health system and this insurance product responds to a real need while helping to contain health costs thanks to easily accessible services"*, said Thomas Boyer, the new Chief Executive Officer of Groupe Mutuel.

Over 350 partner pharmacies as a first point of contact for insured persons

Persons who opt for the PrimaPharma model simply have to visit one of the partner pharmacies before seeing a doctor. Therefore, without an appointment and close to home or to the workplace, it will be easy to access over 350 partner pharmacies across Switzerland, which have extended opening hours. This local presence strengthens direct contact, ensures prompt assistance in the event of a minor health problem and contributes to building a relationship of trust. Furthermore, efficient screening and appropriate advice helps contain costs when a visit to the emergency room or a doctor is not necessary. People insured under the PrimaPharma model will not be obliged to choose a general practitioner or call a medical centre as required by most existing insurance models. In the event of an emergency, insured persons will of course still be able to go directly to another healthcare provider.

This new insurance product will be available throughout Switzerland from 1 January 2020. Interested persons will be able to sign up to the product this autumn, as soon as the compulsory health insurance premiums are announced. PrimaPharma is designed to complete the range of Groupe Mutuel basic health insurance plans. Groupe Mutuel looks forward to working with a major health player, which operates the largest pharmacy network in Switzerland, with the aim of providing insured persons with the best possible services while at the same time introducing measures to limit health costs.

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About Groupe Mutuel

980,000 individuals are insured with Groupe Mutuel for basic health insurance. In total, around 1.3 million individual customers as well as some 23,000 corporate clients have placed their trust in Groupe Mutuel. Its overall turnover exceeds CHF 5.6 billion.

In addition to compulsory health insurance (LAMal/KVG) and supplemental insurance (LCA/VVG), customers can choose from an extensive range of life insurance policies to cover risks and provide for their individual retirement savings, as well as from a range of patrimony insurance solutions (legal protection, private liability insurance and households contents insurance).

Moreover, Groupe Mutuel insurers offer daily allowance insurance to companies, pursuant to LAMal/KVG and LCA/VVG, as well as compulsory accident insurance (LAA/UVG). Groupe Mutuel also manages Groupe Mutuel Prévoyance-GMP pension fund.

About Amavita, Sun Store and Coop Vitality

The Amavita and Sun Store pharmacy networks and the Coop Vitality pharmacies operated in a joint venture with Coop belong to the Retail Business sector of Galenica, which operates the largest pharmacy network in Switzerland with over 500 of its own and independent partner pharmacies.

Amavita, with over 160 pharmacies, offers a wide range of health products with prescription and prescription-only medications and beauty products. Amavita also offers numerous health services.

Sun Store has around 100 branches and has consistently developed and grown over the years. Sun Store's wide range includes medications, but also products for beauty, health and well-being.

Coop Vitality offers its services at 80 locations throughout Switzerland, typically located in or in close proximity to larger Coop stores. The range comprises a broad selection of healthcare and beauty products, as well as an extensive offering in the area of alternative medicines complemented by professional services.

Additional information can be found at: www.galenicare.com, www.amavita.ch, www.sunstore.ch, www.coopvitality.ch