

TO WHAT EXTENT DOES THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A CATEGORY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM INFLUENCE RETAIL PHARMACIES' CURRENT MODEL?

Daniela Dias

Dissertation written under the supervision of Professor Pedro Celeste

Dissertation submitted in partial fulfilment of requirements for the MSc in Management with Specialization in Strategy and Entrepreneurship, at the Universidade Católica Portuguesa, 3rd of January 2017.

Abstract

Title: To What Extent Does the Implementation of a Category Management Program Influence Retail Pharmacies' Current Model? Author: Daniela Sofia Reis Dias

As a result of structural changes that affected the retail pharmacy market and completely altered its competitive landscape, pharmacies are now actively seeking to strategically counterpoint these events.

ANF, as the national association for pharmacies in Portugal, is an organization that, among other services, provides managerial support to associated pharmacies. By associating themselves with ANF, these pharmacies become part of the Farmácias Portuguesas brand.

This study focuses on ANF's latest project, the creation of a Category Management Program, which is expected to become available to all pharmacies associated to ANF (thus part of the Farmácias Portuguesas' Channel).

By studying the program's reach and impact on these independent business units, conclusions are reached regarding its results in the current business model followed, and how this may translate into counterpointing competitors' actions.