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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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## **Medical Mutual to offer more value in Indiana with Encore Health Network**

INDIANAPOLIS – Medical Mutual of Ohio announced today that it will be offering customers more healthcare choice and affordability by reaching an agreement to add the Encore Health Network to its existing provider network offerings.

The arrangement, which is effective Nov. 1, 2005, means 165 hospitals and 16,000 physicians in Encore's network will become available to Consumer Life's approximately 30,000 members in Indiana.

"Offering our customers the best value is our highest priority," said Michael Taddeo, Medical Mutual's vice president National Network Strategy. "Encore has enhanced its network and pricing to where we are confident our members will have more options for care at more affordable prices."

"This new partnership is expected to strengthen Medical Mutual's position in the Indiana marketplace," he added.

Encore is one of the largest Preferred Provider Organizations (PPO) in Indiana. In addition to its network of hospitals and doctors, it offers access to more than 700 ancillary providers, such as medical imaging centers, physical therapists, home healthcare services and hospices.

"We're pleased Medical Mutual has chosen Encore as a network option for Indiana business," said Alex Slabosky, president The Healthcare Group, LLC.

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Founded in 1934, Medical Mutual is one of the oldest and most respected health insurance companies in the nation. Based in Cleveland, Medical Mutual serves its customers through high-quality, affordable group and personal health insurance plans, and third-party administrative services to self-insured group customers. Medical Mutual's annual premium and service-generated revenue in 2004 was \$2 billion. For more information, visit the company's award-winning Web site at [www.MedMutual.com](http://www.MedMutual.com).

Encore Health Network is one of the largest Preferred Provider Organizations (PPOs) in Indiana and services areas in Illinois, Ohio, Kentucky and Michigan. Currently, 650,000 members receive their health care in Encore's growing network, owned by The Healthcare Group LLC, one of Indiana's largest managed-care organizations. Ownership includes Clarian Health (Methodist, IU and Riley hospitals), Community Hospitals of Indianapolis and Deaconess Hospital (Evansville). For more information about Encore, visit [www.encoreconnect.com](http://www.encoreconnect.com).