CENTENE CORP

Form 4

December 13, 2011

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL OMB 3235-0287

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if no longer

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1(b).

Common

Stock

12/10/2011

(Print or Type Responses)

See Instruction

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * NEIDORFF MICHAEL F			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol CENTENE CORP [CNC]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)		
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction	(Check an approach)		
7700 FORYSTH BOULEVARD			(Month/Day/Year) 11/01/2011	X Director 10% OwnerX Officer (give title Other (specify below) Chairman, President and CEO		
(Street)			4. If Amendment, Date Original	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Chec		
ST. LOUIS, MO 63105			Filed(Month/Day/Year)	Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person		

(City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 3. 4. Securities Acquired 5. Amount of 6. 7. Nature of Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if Transaction(A) or Disposed of (D) Securities Ownership Indirect (Instr. 3) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Form: Direct Beneficial Code Beneficially (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) Owned (D) or Ownership Following Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) Reported (Instr. 4) (A) Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4) Code Amount (D) Price Common 11/01/2011 G V 278 D 1,594,960 (1) D Stock 34.21 Common 11/04/2011 V 1,949 D 1,593,011 (1) D G Stock Common 12/02/2011 V 5,180 D 1,587,831 (1) D G Stock Common 12/07/2011 G V 3,640 D 1,584,191 (1) D Stock

14,151

(2)

D

F

1,570,040 (1) D

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Common Stock 12/11/2011 F $\frac{21,225}{(2)}$ D $\frac{\$}{37.56}$ 1,548,815 $\frac{(1)}{2}$ D

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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SEC 1474

(9-02)

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	5. onNumber of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)		e	7. Title and A Underlying S (Instr. 3 and	Securities
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Phantom Stock	\$ 0 (3)					02/11/2011	02/11/2011(4)	Common Stock	50,569.00
Common Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 13.58					08/26/2008	08/26/2013	Common Stock	155,332
Common Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 13.98					12/16/2006	12/16/2013	Common Stock	200,000
Common Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 17.85					07/27/2007	07/27/2014	Common Stock	180,000
Common Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 25.4					12/13/2008	12/13/2015	Common Stock	200,000
	\$ 25.21					12/12/2009	12/12/2016		96,034

Relationships

Common Stock Stock
Option (right to

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address				•	
	Director	10% Owner	Officer		Other

NEIDORFF MICHAEL F
7700 FORYSTH BOULEVARD X Chairman, President and CEO
ST. LOUIS, MO 63105

Signatures

buy)

/s/ William N. Scheffel (executed by attorney-in-fact) 12/13/2011

**Signature of Reporting Person Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).
- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) Ownership includes previous awards of 520,000 restricted stock units subject to vesting requirements.
- (2) Shares withheld for taxes upon vesting of previously reported stock grant.
- (3) Each share of phantom stock represents the right to receive the fair market value of one share of Centene common stock.
- (4) The phantom stock has no formal expiration date. The phantom stock will be settled in cash or other non-Company securities upon Mr. Neidorff's termination with the Company or on such other date Mr. Neidorff may elect.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.

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