

CENTENE CORP  
Form 4  
December 17, 2012

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES**

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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
**HARROLD JASON M**

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
**7700 FORSYTH BOULEVARD**  
  
(Street)

**ST. LOUIS, MO 63105**

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
**CENTENE CORP [CNC]**

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
**12/13/2012**

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
**EVP, Specialty Comp. Officer**

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
 Form filed by One Reporting Person  
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount or Price		
Common Stock	12/13/2012		F		1,623 (1) \$ 45.49	D	
Common Stock	12/14/2012		F		1,914 (1) \$ 44.97	D	

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

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(9-02)

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**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. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exercisable      Expiration Date	Title      Amount or Number of Shares
Phantom Stock	\$ 0 <sup>(3)</sup>					02/12/2010    02/12/2010 <sup>(4)</sup>	Phantom Stock    306.608
Common Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 25.21					12/12/2011    12/12/2016	Common Stock    7,500
Common Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 24.79					12/12/2012    12/12/2017	Common Stock    5,000
Common Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 18.44					07/27/2014    07/27/2019	Common Stock    5,000

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
HARROLD JASON M 7700 FORSYTH BOULEVARD ST. LOUIS, MO 63105			EVP, Specialty Comp. Officer	

## Signatures

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

12/17/2012

        \*\*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) Shares withheld for taxes upon vesting of previously reported stock grant.

Ownership includes previous awards of 39,550 restricted stock units subject to vesting requirements. Since the date of the reporting

(2) person's last ownership report, Mr. Harrold transferred 2,800 shares of Company common stock pursuant to a transfer which was exempt from Section 16.

(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. Harrold's termination with the Company or on such other date Mr. Harrold 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.

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