CENTENE CORP Form 5

January 10, 2012 **FORM 5**

OMB APPROVAL

OMB

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

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no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

Check this box if

ANNUAL STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Estimated average burden hours per response... 1.0

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934,

Form 3 Holdings Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section

Reported 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

Form 4 Transactions Reported

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		
(Last) (First)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Statement for Issuer's Fiscal Year Ended	(Check all applicable)		
			(Month/Day/Year) 12/31/2011	X Director 10% Owner X Officer (give title Other (specify		
7700 FORYSTH BOULEVARD			12/31/2011	below) below) Chairman, President and CEO		
(Street)			4. If Amendment, Date Original	6. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting		
			Filed(Month/Day/Year)	(check applicable line)		
ST. LOUIS,Â	À MOÂ 6310	05		_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 Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	n Date 2A. Deemed 3. Year) Execution Date, if Transaction any Code (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8)		4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)		Ownership Form: Direct (D) or	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)			
				(A) or Amount (D) Price	Fiscal Year (Instr. 3 and 4)	(Instr. 4)				
Common Stock	12/30/2011	Â	G	10,000 D \$ 39.87	1,678,202 (1)	D	Â			

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

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SEC 2270 (9-02)

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

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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)	Secu	vative arities uired or osed O) r. 3,	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	
					(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount Number Shares
Phantom Stock	\$ 0 (2)	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	02/11/2011	02/11/2011(3)	Common Stock	50,569
Common Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 13.58	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	08/26/2008	08/26/2013	Common Stock	155,3
Common Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 13.98	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	12/16/2006	12/16/2013	Common Stock	200,0
Common Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 17.85	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	07/27/2007	07/27/2014	Common Stock	180,0
Common Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 25.4	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	12/13/2008	12/13/2015	Common Stock	200,0
Common Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 25.21	Â	Â	Â	Â	Â	12/12/2009	12/12/2016	Common Stock	96,0

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
NEIDORFF MICHAEL F	ÂΧ	Â	Chairman, President and CEO	Â			
7700 FORYSTH BOULEVARD							

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ST. LOUIS. MOÂ 63105

Signatures

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

01/10/2012

**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) Ownership includes 565,000 shares of restricted stock subject to vesting requirements.
- (2) Each share of phantom stock represents the right to receive the fair market value of one share of Centene common stock.
- (3) 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 provided 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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