

SCHEFFEL WILLIAM N  
Form 4  
December 16, 2010

**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 \*  
SCHEFFEL WILLIAM N

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)  
7700 FORSYTH BOULEVARD

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
12/14/2010

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
Exec VP, CFO & Treasurer

(Street)

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

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

ST. LOUIS, MO 63105

(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) | 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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
| Common Stock                    | 12/14/2010                           |  | A                              | V<br>A  | Amount<br>25,000<br>Price<br>\$ 23.88   | 136,498 <sup>(1)</sup>                                   | 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)**

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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) | 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) | 8. Price of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) |                            |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|----------------------------|
|  |  |                                      |  | Code                           | V (A) (D)   | Date Exercisable   | Expiration Date   | Title  | Amount or Number of Shares |
| Common Stock Option (right to buy)         | \$ 15.35   |                                      |  |                                |   | 12/01/2008   | 12/01/2013  | Common Stock                                       | 28,486                     |
| Common Stock Option (right to buy)         | \$ 16.65   |                                      |  |                                |   | 05/04/2009   | 05/04/2014  | Common Stock                                       | 30,000                     |
| Common Stock Option (right to buy)         | \$ 26.07   |                                      |  |                                |   | 12/08/2009   | 12/08/2014  | Common Stock                                       | 50,000                     |
| Common Stock Option (right to buy)         | \$ 32.06   |                                      |  |                                |   | 07/26/2010   | 07/26/2015  | Common Stock                                       | 25,000                     |
| Common Stock Option (right to buy)         | \$ 25.4  |                                      |  |                                |   | 12/13/2010   | 12/13/2015  | Comon Stock  | 10,000                     |
| Common Stock Option (right to buy)         | \$ 25.21   |                                      |  |                                |   | 12/12/2011   | 12/12/2016  | Common Stock                                       | 10,000                     |

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Relationships

Reporting Owners

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Director 10% Owner Officer

Other

SCHEFFEL WILLIAM N  
7700 FORSYTH BOULEVARD  
ST. LOUIS, MO 63105

Exec VP, CFO & Treasurer

## Signatures

/s/ William N.  
Scheffel

12/16/2010

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 this award of 25,000 restricted stock units which vest in three annual installments on the anniversary of the grant date. In addition, ownership includes previous awards of 31,334 restricted stock units which are subject to vesting requirements.

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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