

EMBLER MICHAEL J  
Form 4  
January 11, 2006

**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 \*  
EMBLER MICHAEL J

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
KINDRED HEALTHCARE, INC  
[KND]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
01/10/2006

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)

101 JFK PARKWAY

(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

SHORT HILLS, NJ 07078

(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 Ownership (Instr. 4) |     |       |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|-----|-------|
|                                 |                                      |  |                                | (A) or (D)  | Code  | V  | Amount                            | (D) | Price |

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

**Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.**

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 | 2. Conversion or Exercise | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any | 4. Transaction Code | 5. Number of Derivative Securities | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|--|---|
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|--|---|

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| (Instr. 3)<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | (Month/Day/Year) | (Instr. 8)<br>Acquired<br>(A) or<br>Disposed of<br>(D)<br>(Instr. 3, 4,<br>and 5) | Code | V | (A)   | (D) | Date Exercisable          | Expiration<br>Date | Title           | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of<br>Shares |
|--|------------------|---|------|---|-------|-----|---------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|--|
| Option<br>(Right to Buy) <sup>(1)</sup>          | \$ 28.89         | 01/10/2006  | A    |   | 5,000 |     | 01/10/2007 <sup>(2)</sup> | 01/10/2016         | Common<br>Stock | 5,000                                  |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                               | Relationships |           |         |       |
|--|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| EMBLER MICHAEL J<br>101 JFK PARKWAY<br>SHORT HILLS, NJ 07078 | X             |           |         |       |

## Signatures

|                                    |            |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| Michael J.<br>Embler               | 01/11/2006 |
| **Signature of<br>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) This option was granted pursuant to the Kindred Healthcare, Inc. 2001 Stock Option Plan for Non-Employee Directors (Amended and Restated).
- (2) This option is exercisable in cumulative equal annual installments over four years commencing on 1/10/2007.

The Reporting Person is a Senior Vice President of Franklin Mutual Advisers, LLC ("FMA"). Advisory clients of FMA are the beneficial owners of the Issuer's Common Stock and outstanding warrants. In accordance with FMA's internal policy, all cash and non-cash

- (3) compensation issued to the Reporting Person in connection with his service on the Board of Directors will be distributed directly to such advisory clients. Under the advisory contracts with FMA, FMA will retain sole voting and investment discretion over these securities. The Reporting Person disclaims beneficial ownership of these securities.

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.