

GOLDMAN CAROL  
Form 4  
January 23, 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 \*  
GOLDMAN CAROL

(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)  
01/19/2012

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)  
Exec VP Chief Admin 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                                                                                        | (A) or (D)                                               | Price                             |
| Common Stock                    | 01/19/2012                           |                                                    | M                              |                                                                   | 1,919                                                                                         | A                                                        | \$ 26.07                          |
| Common Stock                    | 01/19/2012                           |                                                    | M                              |                                                                   | 2,001                                                                                         | A                                                        | \$ 25.4                           |
| Common Stock                    | 01/19/2012                           |                                                    | M                              |                                                                   | 2,000                                                                                         | A                                                        | \$ 25.21                          |
| Common Stock                    | 01/19/2012                           |                                                    | F/K                            |                                                                   | 3,395                                                                                         | D                                                        | \$ 44.57                          |

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

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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 Number Shares |
| Phantom Stock                              | \$ 0 <sup>(3)</sup>                                    |                                      |                                                    |                                |                                                                                         | 12/31/2007                                               | 12/31/2007 <sup>(4)</sup>                                     | Common Stock | 220.67               |
| Common Stock Option (right to buy)         | \$ 26.07                                               | 01/19/2012                           |                                                    | M                              | 1,919                                                                                   | 12/08/2009                                               | 12/08/2014                                                    | Common Stock | 1,919                |
| Common Stock Option (right to buy)         | \$ 25.4                                                | 01/19/2012                           |                                                    | M                              | 2,001                                                                                   | 12/13/2007                                               | 12/13/2015                                                    | Common Stock | 2,001                |
| Common Stock Option (right to buy)         | \$ 25.21                                               | 01/19/2012                           |                                                    | M                              | 2,000                                                                                   | 12/12/2008                                               | 12/12/2016                                                    | Common Stock | 2,000                |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                                 | Relationships |           |                             |       |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------|-----------------------------|-------|
|                                                                | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer                     | Other |
| GOLDMAN CAROL<br>7700 FORSYTH BOULEVARD<br>ST. LOUIS, MO 63105 |               |           | Exec VP Chief Admin Officer |       |

## Signatures

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

01/23/2012

\_\_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 43,334 shares of restricted stock subject to vesting requirements.
- (2) Shares withheld for payment of exercise price and tax liability 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 Ms. Goldman's termination with the Company or on such other date Ms. Goldman 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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