

CENTENE CORP
 Form 3
 November 21, 2016

FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 * | | 2. Date of Event Requiring Statement | 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol | |
| Â BOWERS CHRISTOPHER D | | (Month/Day/Year) | CENTENE CORP [CNC] | |
| (Last) | (First) | (Middle) | 11/11/2016 | |
| 7700 FORSYTH BOULEVARD | | 4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer | | 5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year) |
| (Street) | | (Check all applicable) | | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) |
| ST. LOUIS,Â MOÂ 63105 | | <input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Other (give title below) (specify below) | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person |
| (City) | (State) | (Zip) | EVP, Markets | |

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 4) | 2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4) | 3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) | 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) |
|---------------------------------|---|--|---|
| Common Stock | 55,311.173 ⁽¹⁾ | D | Â |

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly. SEC 1473 (7-02)

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.

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

| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4) | 2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4) | 4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect | 6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) |
|--|--|---|--|--|---|
| | Date Exercisable Expiration Date | Title Amount or Number of | | | |

Shares (I)
(Instr. 5)

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|----------------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| BOWERS CHRISTOPHER D 7700 FORSYTH BOULEVARD ST. LOUIS, MO 63105 | Â | Â | Â EVP, Markets | Â |

Signatures

/s/ Keith H. Williamson (executed by attorney-in-fact) 11/21/2016

__Signature of Reporting Person Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 5(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).
- Ownership includes previous awards of 26,950 restricted stock units. 5,825 units will vest in three equal annual installments on the anniversary of the grant date beginning on December 15, 2016. An additional 5,825, granted on December 15, 2015, are performance stock units. The number of performance stock units vesting at the end of the three year period is predicated on meeting three-year (1) performance conditions. The remaining restricted stock units will vest in the following manner: 5,100 restricted stock units vest in three equal annual installments on the anniversary of the grant date beginning December 9, 2016; 4,532 restricted stock units vest in two equal annual installments on the anniversary of the grant date beginning December 9, 2016 and 5,668 restricted stock units vest on December 10, 2016.

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.