CENTENE CORP Form 4 December 17, 2013

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL OMB

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Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, obligations Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section may continue. 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 See Instruction 1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * AYALA ORLANDO			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol CENTENE CORP [CNC]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer		
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction	(Check all applicable)		
7700 FORSY	TH BOULI	EVARD	(Month/Day/Year) 12/17/2013	X Director 10% Owner Officer (give title below) Other (specification)		
	(Street)		4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)		
ST. LOUIS, MO 63105				_X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person		

(City)	(State)	Tabl	e I - Non-D	Derivative S	Securi	ities Acqu	iired, Disposed of	, or Beneficiall	y Owned
1.Title of	2. Transaction Date	2A. Deemed	3.	4. Securiti	ies Ac	quired	5. Amount of	6.	7. Nature of
Security	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transactio	on(A) or Dis	posed	l of (D)	Securities	Ownership	Indirect
(Instr. 3)	any		Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			Beneficially	Form: Direct	Beneficial	
		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)				Owned	(D) or	Ownership
							Following	Indirect (I)	(Instr. 4)
					(4)		Reported	(Instr. 4)	
					(A)		Transaction(s)		
			Code V	Amount	or (D)	Price	(Instr. 3 and 4)		
Common						\$			
Stock	12/17/2013		P	17,600	A	56.41	29,193 <u>(2)</u>	D	
						(-)			

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)

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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. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	5. onNumber of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)			Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)		8. Pr Deri Secu (Inst
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	
Common Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 31.39					09/19/2014	09/19/2021	Common Stock	10,000	

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
1 5	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
AYALA ORLANDO 7700 FORSYTH BOULEVARD ST. LOUIS, MO 63105	X						

Signatures

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

12/17/2013

**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).
- The weighted average price for this transaction is reported within the form. Full information regarding the number of shares at each price (1) is available upon request.
- (2) Ownership includes 4,000 shares of restricted stock 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. 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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