

Mason Mary V
Form 4
May 18, 2011

FORM 4

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

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB
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(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
Mason Mary V

(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)

05/17/2011

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to
Issuer

(Check all applicable)

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

SVP & Chief Medical Officer

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check
Applicable Line)
__X__ 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)
Common Stock	05/17/2011		M	Amount (A) 3,000 A Price \$ 26.29	24,870 ⁽¹⁾	D	
Common Stock	05/17/2011		M	Amount (A) 4,000 A Price \$ 25.21	28,870 ⁽¹⁾	D	
Common Stock	05/17/2011		S	Amount (D) 7,000 ⁽²⁾ D Price \$ 34.12	21,870 ⁽¹⁾	D	

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

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number.

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
Common Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 26.29	05/17/2011		M	3,000	01/03/2008	01/03/2016	Common Stock	3,000
Common Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 25.21	05/17/2011		M	4,000	12/12/2010	12/12/2016	Common Stock	4,000
Phantom Stock	\$ 0 ⁽³⁾					04/29/2011	04/29/2011 ⁽⁴⁾	Common Stock	4,417.5
Common Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 28.26					04/24/2011	04/24/2016	Common Stock	2,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships
	Director 10% Owner Officer Other
Mason Mary V 7700 FORSYTH BOULEVARD ST. LOUIS, MO 63105	SVP & Chief Medical Officer

Signatures

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

05/18/2011

 **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 previous awards of 13,959 restricted stock units subject to vesting requirements.
- (2) This sale is pursuant to a 10b5-1 Trading Plan established May 3, 2011.
- (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 Dr. Mason's termination with the Company or on such other date Dr. Mason 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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