CENTENE CORP Form 4 August 03, 2005

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB Number:

3235-0287

Expires:

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

January 31, 2005

Estimated average burden hours per

response... 0.5

OMB APPROVAL

if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue.

Check this box

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 See Instruction

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

CENTENE CORP [CNC]

Symbol

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

DITMORE ROBERT K

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *

			CENTENE CORP [CNC]			(Check all applicable)					
(Last) (First) (Middle) 7711 CARONDELET AVENUE, SUITE 800			3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 08/01/2005					_X_ Director 10% Owner Officer (give title Other (specify below)			
am v avva	(Street)		4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)			6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting					
ST. LOUIS, MO 63105								Person			
(City)	(City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned									lly Owned	
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction I (Month/Day/Ye	ear) Execution	emed on Date, if /Day/Year)	Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securi or(A) or Di (Instr. 3,	ispose	ed of (D)	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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
Common Stock								148,967.21	D		
Common Stock	08/01/2005			P	8,450	A	\$ 29.91	15,250	I	By spouse $\frac{(3)}{}$	
Common Stock								5,600	I	See Footnote	
Common Stock								59,200	I	See Footnote (2)	

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

> 9. Nu Deriv Secur Bene Own Follo Repo Trans

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

1. Title of	2.	3. Transaction Date	3A. Deemed	4.	5.	6. Date Exerc	cisable and	7. Title	e and	8. Price of	٩
Derivative	Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transaction	orNumber	Expiration Da	ate	Amou	nt of	Derivative	J
Security	or Exercise		any	Code	of	(Month/Day/	Year)	Underl	ying	Security	,
(Instr. 3)	Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Derivative	e		Securit	ties	(Instr. 5)]
	Derivative				Securities			(Instr.	3 and 4)		(
	Security				Acquired						J
					(A) or						J
					Disposed						7
					of (D)						(
					(Instr. 3,						
					4, and 5)						
									Amount		
									or		
						•	Expiration		Number		
							Date		of		
				Code V	(A) (D)				Shares		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Keiauonsinps						
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
OITMORE ROBERT K							
THE CAROLIDES ET ALTERIAL							

DITMORE ROBERT K 7711 CARONDELET AVENUE SUITE 800 ST. LOUIS, MO 63105

X

Signatures

/s/ Michael F. Neidorff (executed by attorney-in-fact)

08/03/2005

**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).

Deletionship

- Owned by the Ditmore 2002 Charitable Remainder Trust, of which Mr. Ditmore is a co-trustee. Mr. Ditmore disclaims beneficial (1) ownership except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein, and the inclusion of these shares in this report shall not be deemed an admission of beneficial ownership of all of the reported shares for purposes of Section 16 or for any other purpose.
- Owned by the Ditmore Family Management Company LLC, of which Mr. Ditmore is a chief manager. Mr. Ditmore disclaims beneficial (2) ownership except to the extent of his pecuniary interest therein, and the inclusion of these shares in this report shall not be deemed an admission of beneficial ownership of all of the reported shares for purposes of Section 16 or for any other purpose.
- (3) Shares purchased and owned by spouse who shares Mr. Ditmore's household. Mr. Ditmore disclaims beneficial ownership of the shares held by his spouse, and the inclusion of these shares in this report shall not be deemed an admission of beneficial ownership of all of the

Reporting Owners 2

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reported shares for purposes of Section 16 or for any other purpose.

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.