

CENTENE CORP  
Form 8-K  
December 16, 2010

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UNITED STATES

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

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FORM 8-K

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Current Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of report (Date of earliest event reported): December 16, 2010

CENTENE CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware  
(State or other  
jurisdiction of  
incorporation)

001-31826  
(Commission file  
number)

42-1406317  
(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

7700 Forsyth Boulevard, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

(Address of principal executive office and zip code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (314) 725-4477

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Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
  - Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
  - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
  - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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ITEM 7.01 REGULATION FD DISCLOSURE

On December 16, 2010, the Company issued a press release announcing its 2011 financial guidance and reaffirming its 2010 financial guidance. The full text of the press release is included as Exhibit 99.1 to this report. The information contained in the website cited in the press release is not a part of this report.

ITEM 9.01 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS

(d) Exhibits.

99.1 Press release of Centene Corporation issued December 16, 2010.

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SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Date: December 16, 2010

CENTENE CORPORATION

By:

/s/ WILLIAM N. SCHEFFEL

William N. Scheffel

Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer  
and Treasurer

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EXHIBIT INDEX

| Exhibit<br>Number | Description   |
|-------------------|---|
| 99.1              | Press release of Centene Corporation issued December 16,<br>2010. |