CENTENE CORP Form 8-K December 14, 2012

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

FORM 8-K

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 14, 2012

CENTENE CORPORATION

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

Delaware 001-31826 42-1406317 (State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation) (Commission File Number) (IRS Employer Identification No.)

7700 Forsyth Blvd.

St. Louis, Missouri 63105

(Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code) Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (314) 725-4477 (Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report)

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):

- o Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- o Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- o 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 14, 2012, the Company issued a press release announcing its 2013 financial guidance and updating its 2012 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 14, 2012.

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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.

CENTENE CORPORATION

Date: December 14, 2012 By: /s/ William N. Scheffel

William N. Scheffel

Executive Vice President & Chief Financial Officer

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EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit Number Description

99.1 Press release of Centene Corporation issued December 14, 2012.