

BRODIN J PER

Form 4

December 14, 2006

**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 \*  
**BRODIN J PER**

(Last) (First) (Middle)

7711 CARONDELET

(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)  
12/12/2006

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)

Senior Vice President and CFO

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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock	12/12/2006	12/12/2006	A	2,500	(A) or (D) \$ 25.21	13,500 <sup>(1)</sup>	D

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

**Persons who respond to the collection of  
information contained in this form are not  
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SEC 1474  
(9-02)

**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. 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 or Number of Share
Common Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 25.21	12/12/2006		A		5,000		12/12/2011 <sup>(2)</sup>	12/12/2016	Common Stock	5,000
Common Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 23.85							11/28/2010	11/28/2015	Common Stock	7,500
Common Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 28.26							04/24/2011	04/24/2016	Common Stock	10,000

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships
	Director 10% Owner Officer Other
BRODIN J PER 7711 CARONDELET ST. LOUIS, MO 63105	Senior Vice President and CFO

## Signatures

/s/ J. Per Brodin 12/14/2006  
 \*\*Signature of Date  
 Reporting Person

## 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).

- Mr. Brodin's ownership includes this award of 2,500 restricted stock units which vest in five equal annual installments on the anniversary of the grant date beginning on December 12, 2007, as well as a previous award of 10,000 restricted stock units subject to vesting requirements.
- (1) of the grant date beginning on December 12, 2007, as well as a previous award of 10,000 restricted stock units subject to vesting requirements.
- (2) The options vest in five equal annual installments on the anniversary of the grant date beginning on December 12, 2007.

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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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