Delaware (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

1111	ES AND EXCHANGE COMIN	11331011
	Washington, D.C. 20549	
	FORM 8-K	
	Current Report	
	Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934	
Date o	of report (Date of earliest event reported): July 26, 2004	ı
CE	NTENE CORPORATIO	N
ooration)	000-33395 (Commission file number)	42-1406317 (IRS Employer Identification No.)
7711 C	arondelet Avenue, Suite 800, St. Louis, Missouri 63105 (Address of principal executive office and zip code)	

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

ITEM 7. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, PRO FORMA FINANCIAL INFORMATION AND EXHIBITS

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Exhibit Number

Description

99.1

Press release of Centene Corporation issued July 26, 2004 as to financial results for the second quarter ended June 30, 2004.

ITEM 12. DISCLOSURE OF RESULTS OF OPERATIONS AND FINANCIAL CONDITION

On July 26, 2004, we issued a press release announcing our financial results for the second quarter ended June 30, 2004. 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.

The information in this Form 8-K and the exhibit attached hereto shall not be deemed to be filed for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section. Nor shall it be deemed incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933 or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, except as expressly set forth by specific reference in such a filing.

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: July 26, 2004 CENTENE CORPORATION

By: /s/ MICHAEL F. NEIDORFF

Michael F. Neidorff

Chairman and Chief Executive

Officer