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HEALTH CARE REIT INC /DE/ Form 8-K February 27, 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) February 21, 2012

Health Care REIT, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware (State or other jurisdiction

1-8923 (Commission **34-1096634** (IRS Employer

of incorporation) File Number) Identification No.)

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43615

(Zip Code)

4500 Dorr Street (Address of principal executive offices) Registrant s telephone number, including area code (419) 247-2800

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report.)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-1	ζ filing is intended to sim	ultaneously satisfy	the filing ob	oligation of the 1	egistrant ı	ander 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 8.01 Other Events.

On February 21, 2012, in connection with the Registration Statement on Form S-3 (File No. 333-159040), effective May 7, 2009, Health Care REIT, Inc. (the Company) entered into an Underwriting Agreement with Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated, Deutsche Bank Securities Inc. and J.P. Morgan Securities LLC, as representatives of the several underwriters (the Underwriters), for an offering of 18,000,000 shares of common stock of the Company. The Underwriters exercised their overallotment option in full, so the total number of shares to be issued in the offering is 20,700,000.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

- 1.1 Underwriting Agreement, dated as of February 21, 2012, between Health Care REIT, Inc. and Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated, Deutsche Bank Securities Inc. and J.P. Morgan Securities LLC, as representatives of the several underwriters
- 5 Opinion of Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick, LLP
- 8 Tax Opinion of Arnold & Porter LLP
- 23.1 Consent of Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick LLP to the use of their opinion as an exhibit to this Form 8-K is included in their opinion filed herewith as Exhibit 5
- 23.2 Consent of Arnold & Porter LLP to the use of their opinion as an exhibit to this Form 8-K is included in their opinion filed herewith as Exhibit 8

SIGNATURE

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

HEALTH CARE REIT, INC.

By: /s/ George L. Chapman George L. Chapman

Its: Chairman of the Board, Chief Executive Officer and

President

Dated: February 27, 2012