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SMITH & NEPHEW PLC  
Form 6-K  
October 17, 2005

FORM 6-K

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

Report of Foreign Private Issuer

Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16  
of the Securities Exchange Act of  
1934

October 17, 2005

Commission File Number 001-14978

SMITH & NEPHEW plc  
(Registrant's name)

15 Adam Street  
London, England WC2N 6LA  
(Address of registrant's principal executive offices)

[Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover Form 20-F or Form 40-F.]

Form 20-F  Form 40-F   
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[Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(1).]

Yes  No   
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[Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(7).]

Yes  No   
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[Indicate by check mark whether by furnishing the information contained in this Form, the registrant is also thereby furnishing information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2 (b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.]

Yes  No   
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If "Yes" is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2 (b) : 82- n/a.

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SIGNATURES

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 thereunto duly authorized.

Smith & Nephew plc  
(Registrant)

Date: October 17, 2005

By: /s/ Paul Chambers  
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Paul Chambers  
Company Secretary

NOTIFICATION OF MAJOR INTERESTS IN SHARES

1. Name of company

Smith & Nephew plc

2. Name of shareholder having a major interest

The Capital Group Companies, Inc.

3. Please state whether notification indicates that it is in respect of holding of the shareholder named in 2 above or in respect of a non-beneficial interest or in the case of an individual holder if it is a holding of that person's spouse or children under the age of 18

Non-beneficial

4. Name of the registered holder(s) and, if more than one holder, the number of shares held by each of them

Capital Guardian Trust Company:

State Street Nominees Ltd 82,550  
Bank Of New York Nominees Ltd 1,273,143  
Northern Trust 71,500  
Chase Manhattan Bank Australia Ltd 8,500

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Chase Nominees Ltd 6,590,113  
BT Globenet Nominees Ltd 106,900  
Midland Bank plc 194,900  
Cede & Co 119,000  
Deutsche Bank Mannheim 4,500  
Bankers Trust 9,200  
Nortrust Nominees 1,552,740  
Royal Bank of Scotland 8,300  
MSS Nominees Ltd 31,700  
State Street Bank & Trust Co 20,000  
RBSTB Nominees Ltd 3,100  
Deutsche Bank AG 3,600  
HSBC Bank plc 600  
ROY Nominees Ltd 6,600  
Mellon Nominees (UK) Ltd 388,200  
HSBC 5,200  
JP Morgan Chase Bank 657,333

### Capital International Ltd:

State Street Nominees Ltd 38,700  
Bank of New York Nominees 925,465  
Northern Trust 376,344  
Chase Nominees Ltd 572,193  
Midland Bank plc 22,900  
Bankers Trust 48,100  
Citibank London 120,600  
Morgan Guaranty 77,500  
Nortrust Nominees 803,826  
Royal Bank of Scotland 89,400  
State Street Bank & Trust Co 59,300  
Deutsche Bank AG 252,541  
HSBC Bank plc 241,265  
Mellon Bank NA 50,200  
KAS UK 8,900  
Bank One London 31,300

### Capital International SA:

Bank of New York Nominees 6,100  
Chase Nominees Ltd 169,852  
Midland Bank plc 2,400  
Lloyds Bank 5,200  
HSBC Bank plc 38,400

### Capital Research and Management Company:

State Street Nominees Ltd 9,384,000  
Chase Nominees Ltd 22,650,000

### Capital International Inc

Nortrust Nominees 23,000  
HSBC Bank plc 11,500

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5. Number of shares / amount of stock acquired

Not disclosed

6. Percentage of issued class

Not disclosed

7. Number of shares / amount of stock disposed

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8. Percentage of issued class

.....

9. Class of security

Ordinary shares of 12 2/9p

10. Date of transaction

Not known

11. Date company informed

17.10.05

12. Total holding following this notification

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47,146,665

13. Total percentage holding of issued class following this notification

5.02%

14. Any additional information

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15. Name of contact and telephone number for queries

Phil Higgins - Assistant Company Secretary

020 7960 2228

16. Name and signature of authorised company official responsible for making this notification

Phil Higgins - Assistant Company Secretary

Date of notification

17.10.05

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