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SMITH & NEPHEW PLC  
Form 6-K  
December 23, 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

December 23, 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: December 23, 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 1,249,843

Chase Manhattan Bank Australia Ltd 8,500

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Chase Nominees Ltd 6,718,799  
BT Globenet Nominees Ltd 137,300  
Midland Bank plc 194,900  
Cede & Co 121,600  
Deutsche Bank Mannheim 4,500  
Bankers Trust 9,200  
Nortrust Nominees 1,332,174  
Royal Bank of Scotland 12,000  
MSS Nominees Ltd 31,700  
State Street Bank & Trust Co 39,200  
RBSTB Nominees Ltd 9,700  
Deutsche Bank AG 3,600  
HSBC Bank plc 600  
ROY Nominees Ltd 4,600  
Mellon Nominees (UK) Ltd 388,200  
HSBC 5,200  
JP Morgan Chase Bank 657,333  
  
Capital International Ltd:  
State Street Nominees Ltd 9,200  
Bank of New York Nominees 1,004,746  
Northern Trust 376,344  
Chase Nominees Ltd 658,145  
Midland Bank plc 22,900  
Citibank London 130,200  
Morgan Guaranty 77,500  
Nortrust Nominees 668,026  
Royal Bank of Scotland 96,400  
State Street Bank & Trust Co 98,500  
National Westminster Bank 10,800  
Deutsche Bank AG 361,741

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HSBC Bank plc 265,565

Mellon Bank NA 42,500

KAS UK 8,900

Bank One London 31,300

Capital International SA:

Bank of New York Nominees 6,100

Chase Nominees Ltd 83,900

Midland Bank plc 2,400

National Westminster Bank 10,200

Lloyds Bank 5,200

HSBC Bank plc 38,400

Capital Research and Management Company:

State Street Nominees Ltd 13,156,268

Chase Nominees Ltd 58,854,800

State Street Bank & Trust Co 134,410

Capital International Inc

Nortrust Nominees 23,000

HSBC Bank plc 11,500

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

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9. Class of security

Ordinary shares of 12 2/9p

10. Date of transaction

Not known

11. Date company informed

23.12.05

12. Total holding following this notification

87,200,444

13. Total percentage holding of issued class following this notification

9.27%

14. Any additional information

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15. Name of contact and telephone number for queries

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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

23.12.05

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