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SMITH & NEPHEW PLC  
Form 6-K  
August 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

August 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: August 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 50,850  
Bank Of New York Nominees Ltd 504,543  
Chase Manhattan Bank Australia Ltd 4,800  
Chase Nominees Ltd 503,613  
BT Globenet Nominees Ltd 53,900  
Midland Bank plc 24,200  
Cede & Co 45,400  
Nortrust Nominees 1,096,840  
Royal Bank of Scotland 5,500  
MSS Nominees Ltd 13,400  
State Street Bank & Trust Co 3,000  
RBSTB Nominees Ltd 3,100  
Deutsche Bank AG 1,800  
ROY Nominees Ltd 3,500  
Mellon Nominees (UK) Ltd 42,200  
JP Morgan Chase Bank 3,300

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Capital International Ltd:  
State Street Nominees Ltd 14,400  
Bank of New York Nominees 547,665  
Northern Trust 294,344  
Chase Nominees Ltd 364,293  
Midland Bank plc 22,900  
Bankers Trust 16,400  
Morgan Guaranty 57,500  
Nortrust Nominees 597,126  
State Street Bank & Trust Co 22,500  
Deutsche Bank AG 166,741  
HSBC Bank plc 156,965  
Mellon Bank NA 13,800  
Bank One London 24,400

Capital International SA:  
Chase Nominees Ltd 85,952  
Lloyds Bank 13,600

Capital Research and Management Company:  
State Street Nominees Ltd 7,965,300  
Chase Nominees Ltd 15,639,846

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

.....

8. Percentage of issued class

.....

9. Class of security

Ordinary shares of 12 2/9p

10. Date of transaction

.....

11. Date company informed

17.08.2005

12. Total holding following this notification

28,363,678

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13. Total percentage holding of issued class following this notification

3.02%

14. Any additional information

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15. Name of contact and telephone number for queries

Kate Cummins - Company Secretarial Assistant  
020 7960 2251

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

Kate Cummins - Company Secretarial Assistant

Date of notification

17.08.2005

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