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 X Form 40-F

[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 X

[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 X

[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 X

If "Yes" is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2 (b) : 82-n/a.

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

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

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 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

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
Not known
11. Date company informed
17.10.05
12. Total holding following this notification

47,146,665
13. Total percentage holding of issued class following this notification
5.02%
14. Any additional information
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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