

Wandering management

Snapshot

Pricing based on number of people to protect:
Varies by cost, product and service agreement

Average price per resident per year:
One-time equipping of doorways can range from about \$500 to more than \$3,000, but much depends on a building's layout and residents. Additional annual costs vary widely.

Pricing Trends

2007-2008: +2% to +3%

2008-2009: +1% to +2%

2010 projection: +3%

Typical delivery time: Varies from a few days to 6 weeks

Typical delivery charges: Often included in the price, but nothing is typical. Shipment methods and costs can vary dramatically.

Power sources: Hardwired or battery

Installation: Trained installers, either from the seller or the provider, are usually needed. In some cases, facility staff can easily initiate at least parts of a system.

Average life span of product: 7 to 10 years

Average maintenance cost per year:
Varies from a few dollars to about \$100

(Figures cited are averages of all respondents' answers. Actual pricing will vary due to volume, bundling and other factors of a purchase.)

Sources: Cord-Mate, Direct Supply, HomeFree, RF Technologies, Secure Care, Stanley Healthcare Solutions



Photo: Stanley Healthcare Solutions

FROM THE FRONT LINES:

"Make sure all the alerts from your various systems will talk to one another. [Wandering, nurse call, fall prevention, etc.] products need to communicate with each other for coordinated delivery of notifications, whether it's an elopement or fall or anything else. I also like the fact that I can get a report on all 12 of our entities at our headquarters and not have to go to each site."

Carl Goodfriend, CIO, Providence Life Services, Tinley Park, IL

Buyer Notes

- Vendors emphasize asking a lot of questions while shopping for these units. Also, you need to consider your facility layout, as well as your needs (vs. wants) before speaking with a supplier.
- Once you choose a vendor, look to it for recommendations and advice on options. While integrating disparate systems is desirable, be cautious about trying to make too many technologies (i.e., companies or platforms) work together.
- If it's not fully included in the purchase price don't forget to budget for staff training.

For a list of vendors go to the:
EQUIPMENT section, pages 83-103
SAFETY & SECURITY section, pages 185-190