

Wandering management

Snapshot

Pricing based on number of people to protect:

Varies widely depending on technology employed, and services agreement.

Average price: These are customized projects for vendors. Costs quoted by door, building or campus are possible. Doors can run from \$1,000 to \$5,000.

Pricing Trends

2013-2014: Flat to +1%

2014-2015: +2% to + 3%

2015-2016: Flat to + 2%

Typical delivery time: A week, give or take. Add time for installation.

Typical delivery charges: Wrapped into sale price, or freight

Average life span of product: 10 to 15 years

Power sources: Battery and hardwired

Installation: Specialized installers are often recommended, though some experienced staff members could work on it.

Average maintenance cost per year: Battery replacements necessary, as are occasional transmitter replacements (\$100 to \$300).

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

Sources: Care Innovations, Direct Supply, Philips, RF Technologies, Stanley Healthcare Solutions



Photo: Direct Supply

FROM THE FRONT LINES:

“Stay close to the users. We include individuals at the point of care, and maybe the senior’s family members. Something that sounds like it has all the bells and whistles might not be as functional. It’s very important they understand the requirements we need about communicating and integrating with these. You also want to know what they guarantee in terms of support over time.”
Bianca Stern, MSc, BSc OT, OT Reg., Executive Director, Culture, Arts & Innovation, Baycrest, Toronto

Buyer Notes

- Systems can be a bit tricky as to how they get laid out, so stay involved in the process once you sign on the dotted line. Have a good idea of who you want to allow in and out of the building on a door-by-door basis before you go shopping to help your eventual vendor-partner.
- Controlling traffic is important, so put the right equipment on the right doors. That means some high-traffic doors might need alarms, and others that are less-used might not. (Just keep them locked, one expert advises.)
- Inquire how well a system can tailor access to certain areas. For example, some residents might be allowed to walk or roll to certain areas (outside in a garden, for example) during certain times of the day but not at others. This can be a very helpful option.

For a list of vendors go to the: SAFETY & SECURITY section, pages 168-170