28 Industry Information

Floor lifts

Snapshot

Highest priced unit: \$5,650 Mid-range priced unit: \$3,790 Lowest priced unit: \$2,137

Pricing Trends

2013-2014: +5% 2014-2015: +5% 2015-2016: +1%

Typical delivery time: 2 to 4 weeks

Typical delivery charges: \$75 to \$180

Average life span of product: 10 years, although the battery will die sooner.

Standard warranty: 1 to 3 years; electronics may be under separate warranty

Extended warranty: Varies broadly

Average maintenance cost per year: Labor checking and cleaning wheels

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

Sources: ArjoHuntleigh, Drive Medical, Geriatric Medical, Hill-Rom, Tollos, Vancare



FROM THE FRONT LINES:

"Take a clinical team with you. Don't look at a catalog. Look at the quality, and try everything out. We try lifting each other. Remember, it's terrifying to be in a lift." Rita Vann, Senior Vice President, Clinical Operations, Ascension Health Senior Care. St. Louis

Buyer Notes

- A case for lifts: Healthcare workers suffer injuries at nearly twice the national average of all other industries combined, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.
- Providers should ask about infection control: Straps and the seat can become rife with germs without proper cleaning.
- Slings may be disposable or removable ask about options.
- Every three months, there should be training on how to use a floor lift, and not only for new employees.
- Not every facility can put in ceiling lifts due to structure or cost, which makes floor lifts a better option for some buildings.

For a list of vendors go to the: EQUIPMENT section, pages 84-86