

# Wandering management

## Snapshot

### Pricing based on number of people to protect:

Varies widely depending on technology employed, and services agreement.

### Average price per resident per year:

These are customized projects for vendors. Costs quoted by door, building or campus.

## Pricing Trends

2011-2012: +1 to + 3%

2012-2013: Flat to + 2%

2013-2014: Flat to +1%

**Typical delivery time:** Figure about a week. Installation time is more.

**Typical delivery charges:** Wrapped into sale price, or freight

**Average life span of product:** 10 to 15 years

**Power sources:** Hardwired and battery

**Installation:** Experienced staff members could work on this, though typically specialized installers are used.

### Average maintenance cost per year:

Transmitter replacements can run \$65 to about \$150; battery replacements also are occasionally needed.

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

Sources: Accutech, Crest Healthcare Supply, RF Technologies, Stanley Healthcare Solutions



Photo: Stanley Healthcare Solutions

## FROM THE FRONT LINES:

"Look for things that are discreet and have versatile attachments. Some people, for example, don't like that some of these look like watches. We've adapted some of ours so they can be put on wheelchairs or walkers [if a resident uses one all the time]. Look for a system that also has a lot of adaptability."

Amy Hoch Altwegg, Executive Director, Village Manor, Memorial Health System, Abilene, KS

## Buyer Notes

- Systems are becoming more sophisticated. Some vendors suggest keeping a close eye on the market for new releases. Newer products can be set up, for example, to maintain a "safety zone" of varying sizes for different individuals. Notifications go out whenever a boundary is breached.
- Ask about add-on or cost-of-ownership costs. Besides the initial outlay for a product, you'll want to know what the warranty is, what the battery situation will be and what shelf-life can be expected.
- Inquire as to installation methods and warranties. "Cross-talk" is not an uncommon occurrence when wireless systems are installed. This condition could cause some doorways to carry less (or more) security back-up than intended.

**For a list of vendors go to the:**

**SAFETY & SECURITY section, pages 199-202**