

Equipment Information Sheet

1. Barrier Free exam tables

High-Low power exam tables are popular because of their reliability, functionality and accessibility of factory trained technicians across the province. There are many models with various functionality including power adjustable backs making it easy to use. Costs range from \$6,000 to \$9,000 depending on functions.

2. Ceiling Lift

Lifts come in fixed and portable styles. Fixed ceiling lifts are permanently installed on a rail or system of rails in the ceiling. Portable lifts can be transferred when needed from one rail to another and are useful when you need to have a lift in more than one room. A disadvantage of portable lifts is that the user must remember to plug the unit in after use so that the battery stays charged.

It is difficult to quote completely accurate pricing on lifts since much depends on how complicated installation for each location. If the ceiling is cement, then installation is quite straightforward. If you have a dropped ceiling, the lift must be mounted on the joists. With all products, the distributors will do an on-site assessment and price installation accordingly. Costs range from \$3,000 - \$9,500 depending on unique needs of installation.

3. Wheelchair Weight Scales

There are multiple ways to measure the weight of a person who uses a wheelchair and can't stand. Stand-alone wheelchair weight scales can cost approximately \$7,000. Another option is a weight scale on the ceiling lift where weight can be measured while transferring a person using the lift on to a high low table. Purchasing these weight scale devices for the ceiling lift can cost less than \$1000.

To identify specific vendors to purchase these types of equipment, we encourage you to connect with Family Health Teams that are accessible. All 25 Nurse Practitioner-Led Clinics in Ontario are accessible. You can also connect with one of our partners at the Centre for Family Medicine Family Health Team Mobility Clinic.

To include in a Family Health Team's Operating Plan Submission

If your FHT needs this equipment, please consider including a business case in your Annual Plan Submission to the ministry, along with supporting rationale and relevant documentation (e.g. quotes). If you are requesting one barrier free exam table and one ceiling track lift, it should be sufficient to reference that this request is to assist in becoming compliant with the Customer Service Standard of the **Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act**. If you are requesting that barrier free exam tables be funded for more than one exam room, you will need to justify this by referencing the characteristics of the population to be served. Below is a paragraph for your consideration:

"As part of our family physicians' practice, we serve patients with complex needs and persons with physical disabilities. In support of the AODA Customer Service Standard and our patient population (provide some evidence to support this), the following equipment will allow us to provide a better quality service and expand our practice to serve more people with physical disabilities. In addition, we are connected with Spinal Cord Injury Ontario (SCIO), which has offered their support in helping our practice address the challenges and barriers related to people with physical disabilities."