

66-13 Midmark Concept LR Dental Chair (Project 01-57) (9/02)

The Midmark Concept LR Dental Chair is a cantilever-based hydraulic dental chair engineered around a cast-iron frame, which is claimed to provide outstanding strength and stability. The chair features the Midmark Octaglide System, a combination of eight, anti-friction rollers that provides smooth chair movement. In addition, all major pivot points are said to be made of high-precision steel that operates on lubricated-for-life bronze bearings. The manufacturer states that all electrical and other connections are internally plumbed to provide both protection and asepsis, meeting Underwriter Laboratory 2601 Standards that will not be mandatory until January 2005. The Concept LR chair also features seamless upholstery, double articulating headrest, programmable footrest control, and two hip-post mounted programmable controls. The base is said to swivel 30 degrees allowing easy patient access. The chair is available in both 115 and 230-volt configurations and is compatible with both 50 and 60 Hertz. This project evaluated the LR chair with the ultra leather upholstery upgrade and was done in conjunction with concurrent evaluations of the L/R Dental Unit and the Midmark Operatory Light.



Manufacturer:

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Suggested Retail Price:

Midmark Concept LR Dental Chair (Part # 153592-003)
\$8,250.00 with standard upholstery
\$8,880.00 with Ultra leather upholstery upgrade

Government Price:

Midmark Concept LR Dental Chair (same part number as above)
\$4,718.48 with standard upholstery
\$5,047.12 with Ultra leather chair upholstery upgrade

ADVANTAGES:

- + Provides smooth, jerk-free movement to all positions.
- + Stable in all operating positions.
- + Operated reliably during the course of the evaluation.
- + Provides adequate comfort for dental patients.
- + Is easily converted from right- to left-hand use.
- + Made of high-quality materials.
- + Does not hinder access for patient care.
- + The headrest is easy to adjust.
- + Met all electrical safety requirements.
- + Is esthetically designed.
- + Met most pertinent requirements of Medical Procurement Item Description (MPID) #2 for dental chairs.
- + Assembly is straightforward using provided instructions.
- + Maintenance and service literature is clear and complete and is supplemented with helpful diagrams.
- + 2-year limited warranty.

DISADVANTAGES:

- Armrest length will not support phlebotomy and intravenous procedures.
- Foot control buttons may be difficult to see and activate.
- Touch pad programming button may be overlooked by users who are unfamiliar with the operating manual.
- Plush upholstery may present asepsis and longevity concerns for some users.
- Chair movement may be perceived as slow by some providers.
- Costs from \$520.00 to \$1849.00 more than other dental chairs on the federal government contract.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION:

The Midmark Concept LR Dental Chair is an esthetically pleasing, stable dental chair that is solidly built of high-quality components. It met all electrical safety requirements and most of the pertinent requirements of MPID #2. The chair was easy to assemble and all of the manufacturer's documentation was clear and complete. The chair generally functioned well during laboratory testing and was appreciated by clinical evaluators because of its smooth, jerk-free movement and patient comfort. Noted drawbacks include difficulty in seeing the foot control buttons, the unusual location of the touch pad controls, the inability of the arm rests to support IV procedures, and cost. The **Midmark Concept LR Dental Chair** is rated **Acceptable** for use by the federal dental services.