CLAIMS

1. A transportation unit (70) comprising:

a frame (52);

a plurality of wheels attached to the frame; and

a retractable wheel system (10) comprising:

a rotatable member (12) attached to the frame;

a swing arm (14) comprising a first end attached to the rotatable member and a second end attached to a wheel (20);

a swing mount (22) attached to the rotatable member; and

a spring member (24) having a first end (26) attached to the swing mount at a connection point (30) and a second end (28) attached to the second end of the swing arm, such that the spring member is rotatable relative to the swing mount at the connection point,

wherein the spring member is configured to apply a force in a downward direction when the connection point is above a line extending between a wheel attachment point and a swing arm rotation point,

wherein the wheel of the retractable wheel system is positioned between the plurality of wheels, wherein the line extends through an axis or centerline of the swing arm, and further comprising a first extended position in which the connection point is above the line and a second retracted position in which the connection point is below the line, wherein rotation of the rotatable member is configured to move the system between the first extended position to the second retracted position, and

wherein the transportation unit is a medical bed.