

## Mayo Clinic Minute

### Mayo Clinic study shows why second opinions are good for patients

Video	Audio
	More than one in five patients is incorrectly diagnosed by their health care provider, according to a new study at Mayo Clinic
<b>JAMES NAESSENS, Sc.D.</b> <b>HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH</b> <b>Mayo Clinic</b>	(35:02 – 35:07) “Twenty percent of the time, the final diagnosis was very different from the original diagnosis.”
	Dr. James Naessens led the study that also found two-thirds of patients had their original diagnosis more defined for treatment options after a second opinion.
	That means roughly only one in 10 patients had their original diagnosis confirmed after a second opinion.
<b>JAMES NAESSENS, Sc.D.</b> <b>HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH</b> <b>Mayo Clinic</b>	(37:15 - 37:23) “Having the wrong diagnosis, you’ll basically get the wrong treatment, and whatever the problem is won’t be helped.”
	For example, if a patient is diagnosed with a gastrointestinal issue, but a second opinion finds the issue is actually an endocrine problem, the original diagnosis could have led to costly, and sometimes harmful treatments.
	Naessens says more research is needed, but says patients should not be afraid to ask their doctor for a second opinion, and insurance providers should cover more second opinion appointments, especially with primary care provider referrals.

For the Mayo News Network, I'm Ian Roth.