

Rapid tests often wrong about swine flu

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(AP) -- The government's first study of how well rapid tests diagnose swine flu finds they're wrong at least half the time.

The [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) looked at rapid tests made by three companies. The tests correctly confirmed swine [flu](#) infections only 10 percent to 51 percent of the time. The tests were better at diagnosing seasonal flu.

What should doctors do if a test comes back negative for a patient they think has the flu? The CDC says doctors should order a more precise lab test but in the meantime prescribe medicines like Tamiflu.

The results of the study were released Thursday.

On the Net:

CDC: <http://www.cdc.gov/H1N1FLU/>

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