Down syndrome can be diagnosed through a combination of screening tests and diagnostic tests.The quad screen in the second trimester measures four pregnancy-associated substances: alpha fetoprotein, estriol, HCG, and inhibin A. Diagnostic Tests During Pregnancy: Chorionic Villus Sampling (CVS): Performed between 10 and 13 weeks of pregnancy, CVS involves taking cells from the placenta to analyze fetal chromosomes.Here's how it works: Screening Tests During Pregnancy: First Trimester Combined Test: This two-step test includes a blood test to measure levels of pregnancy-associated plasma protein-A (PAPP-A) and the pregnancy hormone human chorionic gonadotropin (HCG).

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