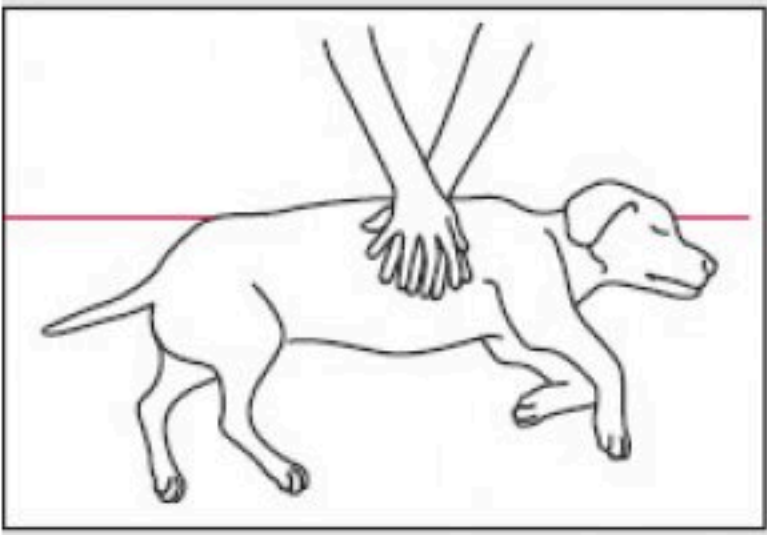


**Step 4. Get the dog to the hospital.** If after about five two-minute cycles the dog does not come through, the odds are very low that she will. If she does come to, stop the CPR as soon as she takes a breath on her own. Not only does she not need any more help respirating, you also don't want a situation where you're right up against her face and the disorientation of coming back to consciousness might lead her to react in an aggressive way.

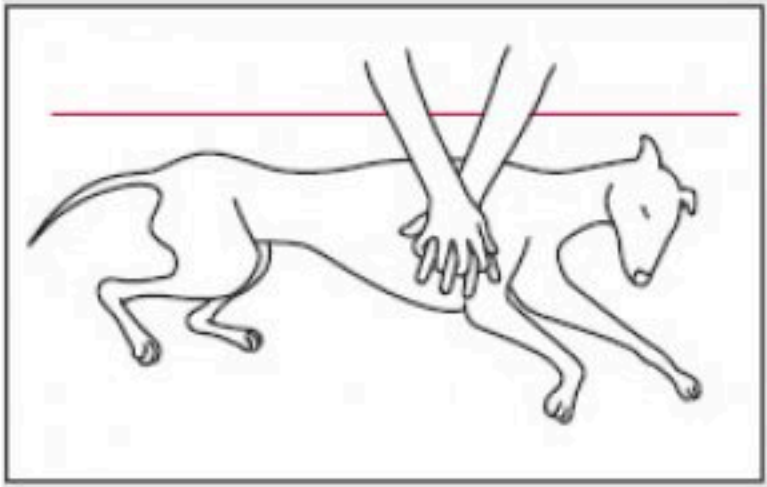
Conscious or not, get her to the hospital immediately. A veterinary facility has machinery and medications you don't that will facilitate treatment of cardiac arrest, giving her a better chance of long-term survival. Consider, too, that whatever caused the cardiopulmonary arrest might not be fixed yet, meaning it needs to be tended to so it doesn't happen again. There can also be compromised function of various organs throughout the body, brain injuries, and damage to other tissues. And the CPR itself can cause problems like broken ribs that need to be treated. Complications like these are believed to contribute to the high rate of mortality even when an animal is "brought back," but if the dog is being watched and treated by medical professionals, the odds that she will return to full health rather than succumb improve significantly.

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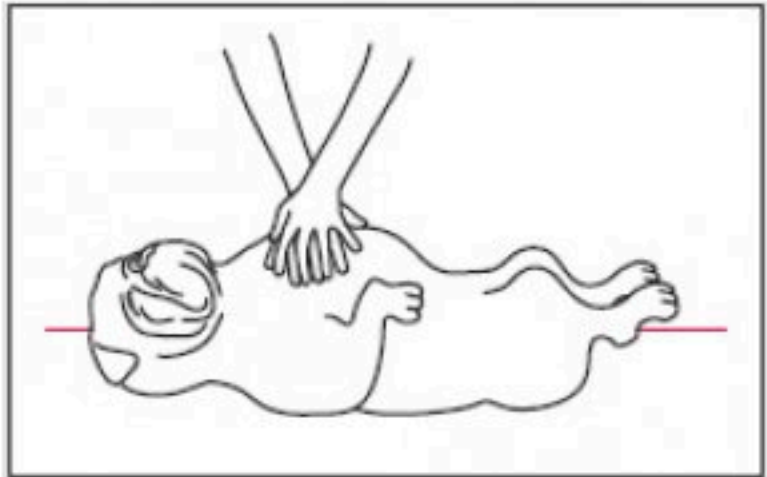
## Proper Placement of Dog and Hands for the Best Chest Compressions



For most dogs weighing more than 20 pounds, the best placement of the hands for chest compressions is over the widest portion of the chest, one hand on top of the other.



For dogs with narrow, deep chests, like greyhounds, it's best to position the hands directly over the heart. With those body conformations, the blood has a better chance of flowing through the heart and lungs that way.



For barrel-chested dogs such as bulldogs, the hands should be placed directly over the heart, just as for those who are keel-chested. But in this case, putting the dog on her back can be considered.