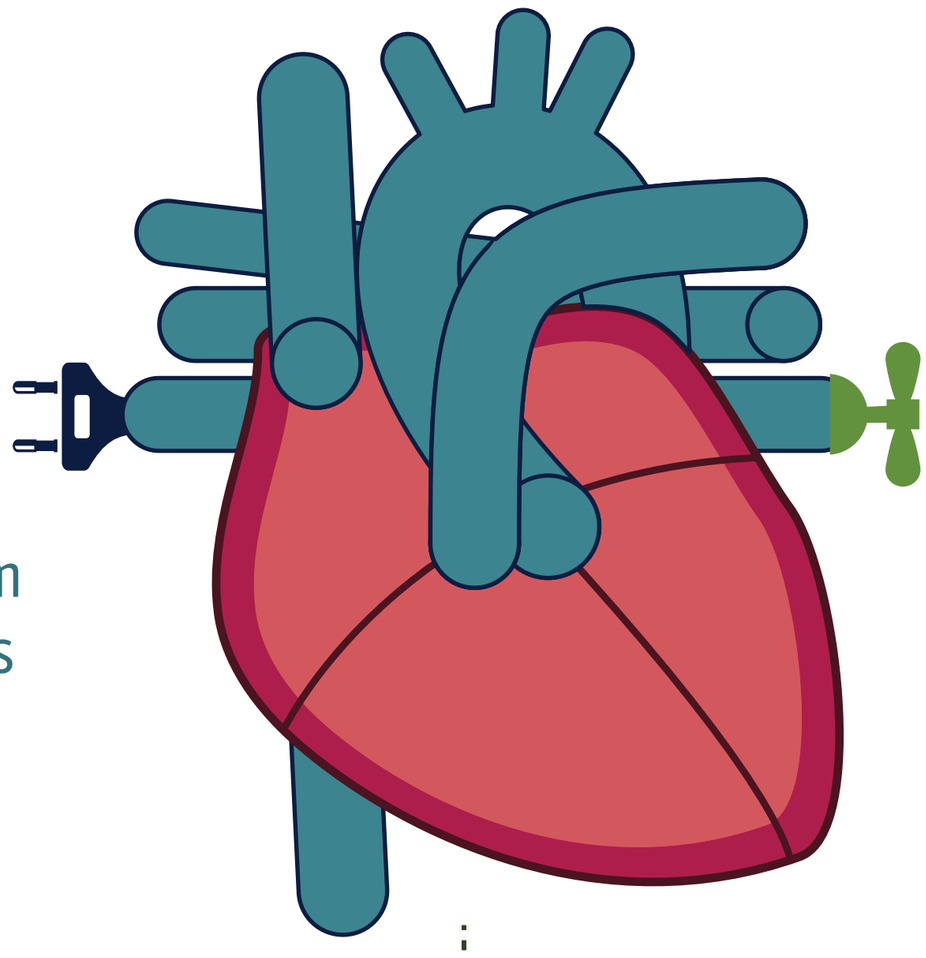
Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA)

CardioSmart
AMERICAN COLLEGE of CARDIOLOGY®

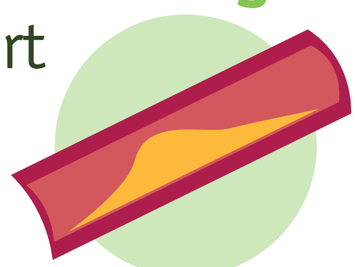
Sudden cardiac arrest



vs. heart attack

SCA is a problem with the heart's **"electrical"** system

A **heart attack** affects the **"plumbing"** of the heart



Usually strikes **without warning**

People may have **early signs**

The heart **suddenly stops beating,** and no blood is pumped to the rest of the body

Blood supply to the heart muscle is **reduced or blocked**, but the heart **keeps beating**

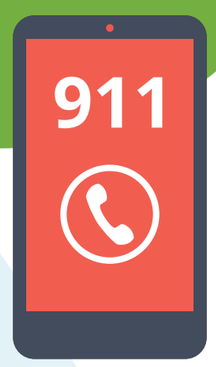
People with SCA **won't have a pulse**

People **have a pulse**, but sometimes a heart attack can cause SCA

Quick action saves lives

1. Call 911
2. Immediately start CPR, hands only
3. Use an automated external defibrillator (AED) to provide an electric shock to the heart

If you think someone is having a heart attack, DON'T DELAY. Call 911 right away.



Survival rates could double or triple if more people **take action and know** what to do when someone is in SCA

For more information, visit *CardioSmart.org/SCA*

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