

# Definitions

**Depression:** Lethargy with reduced activity but no reduction in mental ability.

**Dementia:** Loss of mental and intellectual abilities, memory, and usual personality; often manifests as inability to perform trained activities and inability to recognize the owner or other familiar objects (Figure 2-1).



**Figure 2-1** Dementia in an 8-year-old Saluki with cerebral neoplasia; the dog did not recognize the owner and wandered aimlessly to the left.

**Delirium:** Reduced ability to pay attention to external stimuli, disorganized thinking, disorientation, and reduced level of consciousness; often manifests as agitation, hyperactivity, hysteria, excessive vocalization, and inability to be calmed.

**Obtundation:** Decreased consciousness and behavioral responses to mild sensory stimuli; dull, sleepy.

**Stupor:** Partial or nearly complete unconsciousness; animal maintains a behavioral response to vigorous or noxious stimuli, such as pain.

**Coma:** Unconsciousness and an absent behavioral response to noxious stimuli, including pain; spinal reflexes may be present or absent.

**Anisocoria:** Unequal pupil size.

**Cheyne-Stokes respiration:** Rhythmic waxing and waning of the depth of respiration with regularly recurring periods of apnea.

**Decerebrate rigidity:** Marked extensor rigidity of the limbs, usually associated with midbrain lesions; animal usually comatose.

**Opisthotonus:** Dorsal extension of the head, with extension of the thoracic limbs and flexion of the pelvic limbs; often associated with acute cerebellar lesions (decerebellate rigidity).

**Meningoencephalitis:** Inflammation of the meninges and brain.

**Encephalitis:** Inflammation of the brain.

**Meningoencephalomyelitis:** Inflammation of the brain, meninges, and spinal cord.

**Meningomyelitis:** Inflammation of the meninges and spinal cord.

**Meningitis:** Inflammation of the meninges.

**Myelitis:** Inflammation of the spinal cord.

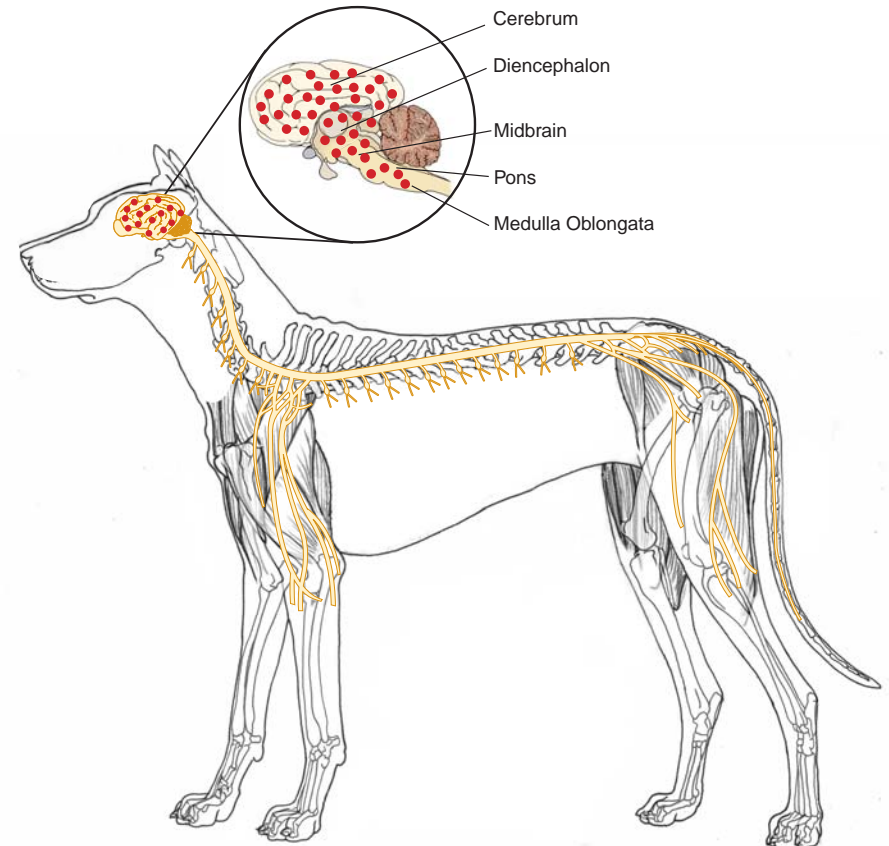
# Lesion Localization

✓ Location of lesions that cause stupor or coma is shown in Figure 2-2.

✓ Dementia and delirium result from lesions of the:

Cerebrum

Diencephalon



**Figure 2-2** Dysfunction of the cerebrum, diencephalon, midbrain, pons, and medulla causes dementia, stupor, or coma (the dots indicate the lesion localization).