Subject: Re: McCain picks his vp.

Posted by Nukelt15 on Mon, 01 Sep 2008 20:45:19 GMT

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Be careful- there are several different "vegetative states," and some of them allow no possibility of recovery. They're misdiagnosed fairly often, though- which is one good argument against pulling the plug. On the other hand, once it is known for sure that a patient will never recover, keeping an empty body on life support is rather pointless and wasteful of medical resources.

Here's a hypothetical question for you: if a patient were to recover from a PVS after all higher brain functions had ceased for months, perhaps years- would it be the same person who awoke in that body?