Living Vegetables Can Think

Welcome to the Health Freedom Minute. This is Twila Brase, president of Citizens’ Council for Health Freedom.

Some patients in vegetative states have been proven to have very alert minds.

The Washington Post reported a study in early 2010 by Dr. Adrian Owen from the University of Cambridge. Owen used advanced brain scanners and gave careful instructions to seemingly vegetative patients. Some scans showed nothing. But several patients’ brains flashed as bright as a healthy conscious person. One man could flawlessly answer detailed yes-or-no questions about his life before his trauma by activating different parts of his brain.

Owens said, these patients “are totally unable to perform functions with their bodies—even blink an eye or move an eyebrow—but yet are entirely conscious.” “It’s quite distressing, really, to realize this,” he said. Actually, it’s amazing.

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