

Coma victim wakes up in nick of time

A man in a coma regained consciousness just hours before his family was due to switch off his life-support machine.

Martin Jervis, 61, had undergone a five-hour operation to remove a blood clot from his brain after he collapsed at home. After scans and tests his family were told that there was little hope of him regaining consciousness.

Doctors informed his wife Barbara, 63, that there were no signs of brain activity but wanted to carry out a final

scan to make sure before switching off his life support. Having been in a coma for two weeks and showing no signs of coming round he woke, smiled at a nurse at the Royal Stoke University Hospital and squeezed her hand.

Mrs Jervis, who had found her husband unconscious at their home in Bignall End, Staffordshire, said: "It was a complete shock because we were going to say goodbye the same day."

His nephew, Deane Jervis, said: "We couldn't believe the phone call we

received that morning. And his surgeon couldn't believe it, because he had never seen a patient wake from such horrific brain injuries."

Doctors said that the injuries were similar to those they would see from the victim of a car crash.

Mr Jervis is on a ventilator in hospital and his family are waiting to find out what caused his collapse. Deane said: "We don't know what the future holds for him, all we know is that we have my uncle Martin back."

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