

术前预测肝癌微血管侵犯在检验学的研究进展

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[摘要] 目前,微血管侵犯(microvascular invasion,MVI)被认为是肝细胞癌(hepatocellular carcinoma,HCC)根治性切除术后与患者预后密切相关的危险因素,它不仅可以为肝癌患者的治疗方案提供重要的价值,还可以作为术后是否需要辅助治疗的重要指标。现阶段,一些新兴的检验学指标,如中性粒细胞、淋巴细胞、血小板、异常凝血酶原(Des- γ -carboxyl prothrombin,DCP)、甲胎蛋白(alpha fetoprotein,AFP),以及联合指标等可在术前进行预测肝癌血管的侵犯状态。以此为基础,本文将对近年来检验学预测肝癌发生微血管侵犯的方法及临床意义做一综述。旨在进一步分析检验学在临床应用中存在的难题,促进预测HCC-MVI的临床运行,此外还将对未来的研究方向进行探讨。

[关键词] 肝细胞癌; 微血管侵犯; 检验学指标; 进展

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Preoperative Prediction of Microvascular Invasion in Hepatocellular Carcinoma in Laboratory Science

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[Abstract] Currently, microvascular invasion (MVI) is considered to be a risk factor closely related to the prognosis of patients after radical resection of hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC), which not only provides an important value for the treatment plan of patients with hepatocellular carcinoma, but also serves as an important indicator for the need of adjuvant treatment after surgery. It can not only provide important value for the treatment plan of patients with hepatocellular carcinoma, but also serve as an important indicator for the need of postoperative adjuvant treatment. Nowadays, some emerging tests, such as neutrophils, lymphocytes, platelets, Des-gamma-carboxyl prothrombin (DCP), alpha fetoprotein (AFP), and combination of indicators, can be used to predict the vascular invasion status of hepatocellular carcinoma in the preoperative period. Based on this, this article will review the methods and clinical significance of laboratory tests for predicting microvascular invasion in hepatocellular carcinoma in recent years. It aims to further analyse the difficulties in the clinical application of laboratory science and promote the clinical operation of predicting HCC-MVI, in addition to exploring the future research direction.

[Key words] hepatocellular carcinoma; microvascular invasion; laboratory indices; progression

引言

肝细胞癌(hepatocellular carcinoma,HCC)是原发性肝癌最常见的类型,约占其病例的90%。据世界卫生组织统计,2020年肝癌新发病例约905677例,其发病率排名第六,而死亡率排名第三。在中国,肝癌在常见恶性肿瘤中排名第四,因肿瘤死亡人数排名第二^[1,2]。微血管侵犯(microvascular invasion,MVI),也称微血管癌栓,主要是指在显微镜下于内皮细胞衬覆的血管腔内见到癌细胞巢团^[3]。肿瘤转移是一个由多种因素驱动的复杂进化过程,涉及肿瘤细胞、微环境以及它们之间的相互作用^[4]。近几年,随着研究的深入,发现微血管侵犯是HCC患者根治性切除后复发和生存预后不良的独立危险因素和重要指标^[5-9]。鉴于MVI在HCC中的重要临床意义,术前准确识别和预测MVI非常必要。但与大血管侵犯不同,传统影像学检查难以精确评估MVI,组织病理学检查仍是评估MVI的唯一可靠方法。因此,迫切需要开发新的可靠因素用于MVI的术前诊断和评估。

1 MVI的术前预测的临床意义

微血管侵犯(MVI)的术前预测对于肝细胞癌(HCC)患者具有重要的临床意义。准确预测MVI的存在可以帮助医生制定更有效

的个性化治疗方案,并可以提前警示患者预后风险。此外,对MVI的术前预测还有助于决定手术切除的可行性和潜在的手术风险,从而指导临床决策。因此,通过准确的术前预测MVI,可以为HCC患者提供更好的治疗管理和预后评估。

2 预测肝细胞癌MVI的检验学指标

2.1 炎症指标

肝癌通常是在慢性炎症、环境毒素等微环境因素的刺激下,肝细胞基因组中积累的突变所致。肿瘤微环境中的细胞产生多种细胞因子,这些细胞因子可以刺激HCC细胞的增殖和转化,诱导血管内皮细胞的形成,并募集免疫细胞。同时,这些细胞可以增加细胞因子的分泌,加速肿瘤的发生、发展、侵袭和转移^[10]。简而言之,MVI是HCC细胞不断受到炎症和其他因素的刺激,并被PI3K/AKT、Wnt/ β -catenin等几种信号通路激活的过程^[11]。因此,一些与炎症相关的指标也被考虑在了对MVI进行术前预测的研究中。近期的一项Meta分析结果显示,术前中性粒细胞-淋巴细胞比值(NLR)水平与肝细胞癌微血管浸润风险呈正相关,其中15项回顾性队列研究中MVI阳性组术前NLR水平高于MVI阴性组($P < 0.001$)^[12]。李琴等^[13]通过对1452例通过HCC根治术后病例研究发现,中性粒细胞-淋巴细胞比值(NLR) ≥ 3 、血小板与淋巴细胞比值(PLR) ≥ 150 与患者RFS独立相关。王东等^[14]对202例HCC患者病例进行研究,多因素Cox回归分析发现,预后营养指数(PNI) ($P = 0.001$)是RFS的重要预后标志物,PNI ($P = 0.049$)、全身免疫炎症指数(SII) ($P = 0.039$)是OS的重要预后标志物。低PNI组和高PNI组的中位RFS分别为13.5个月和23个月($P = 0.001$),SII低组和高组的中位RFS分别为18个月和15个月($P = 0.03$)。而吴一峰等^[15]回顾性分析161例HCC者的数据,采用Logistic和Cox回归分析确定了中性粒细胞与淋巴细胞比值(NLR)、血小板与淋巴细胞比值(PLR)、单核细胞与淋巴细胞比值(MLR)、全身炎症反应指数(SIRI)和全身免疫炎症指数(SII)是肝切除术后早期复发(2年内)和无复发生存期的危险因素,并且分析出预测早期复发的单核细胞与淋巴细胞比值(MLR)曲线下面积为0.700,优于SIRI、NLR、PLR和SII。翟张凯等^[16]对153例小肝癌患者作为研究对象,将其分为MVI组70例,非MVI组83例,分析出MVI组、非MVI组患者平均血小板体积(MPV)、血小板计数(PLT)、MPV/PLT的比较,与非MVI组比较,MVI组患者MPV水平更高、PLT水平更低($P < 0.05$);同时MVI组患者MPV/PLT水平明显高于非MVI组($P < 0.05$)。结果显示,MPV/PLT水平在小肝癌并发微血管浸润患者中升高,是小肝癌患者并发MVI的独立影响因素。顾雨飞等^[17]对HCC根治性切除术的658例孤立性原发性肝癌患者资料进行分析显示术前AFP $> 969 \mu\text{g/L}$ ($P < 0.001$)、中性粒细胞 $> 1.8 \times 10^9/\text{L}$ ($P = 0.002$)、 γ -谷氨酰转氨酶-血小板比值(GPR) > 0.32 ($P = 0.001$)、天冬氨酸氨基转移酶-血小板比值(APR) > 0.18 ($P < 0.001$)、 γ -谷氨酰转氨酶-白蛋白比值(GAR) > 2.30 ($P = 0.001$)、 γ -谷氨酰转氨酶-淋巴细胞比值 > 29.58 ($P < 0.001$)被确定为MVI的术前独立危险因素。然而,目前关于炎症相关指标对MVI的预测研究至今尚少,从而限制了其在临床上的广泛应用。

2.2 肿瘤标志物

多项研究指出,肿瘤标志物对于预测肝癌(HCC)合并微血管侵犯(MVI)具有重要的诊断和预测能力。甲胎蛋白(AFP)、异常凝血酶原(PIVKA-II)等已经被证实是MVI的独立预测因子^[18-21]。张驰豪等^[22]对714例接受根治性肝切除术的非转移性肝癌患者(MVI阳性503例,MVI阴性211例)研究中发现甲胎蛋白(AFP)、 γ -谷氨酰转氨酶(GGT)是HCC合并MVI的独立预后因素。何羽童等^[23]研究还发现,HBeAg(乙型肝炎e抗原)、AFP、AFP-L3(甲胎蛋白异质体)、PT(凝血酶原时间)、PLT(血小板)是HBV相关性HCC发生MVI的独立危险因素。Masaki Kaibori等^[18]回顾性比较213例肝癌MVI患者和221例无MVI肝切除术患者的临床病理学和结局数据。结果显示维生素K缺失/拮抗作用诱导的蛋白质II(PIVKA-II) $\geq 200\text{mAU/ml}$ 是MVI的独立预测因子。周强等^[19]通过对HCC根治性切除术的709例肝癌患者统计分析,结果显示甲胎蛋白(AFP, 20-400或 $>400\text{ng/mL}$)、维生素K缺失-II诱导的蛋白质(PVIKA-II, 40-400或 $>400\text{mAU/mL}$)、碱性磷酸酶(ALP $> 125\text{U/L}$)是MVI的独立预测因子。而郑华珍等^[21]的研究认为术前PIVKA-II $> 220\text{mAU/mL}$ 和AFP $> 305\text{ng/mL}$ 是HCC患者发生MVI的独立危险因素。其中PIVKA-II和AFP单独诊断MVI的灵敏度、特异度、AUC、OR分别为76.3%、54.5%、0.709、3.741和55.3%、75.8%、0.652、3.837,可见PIVKA-II有较高的诊断灵敏度,AFP有较高的诊断特异度,二者的OR相近,PIVKA-II总体诊断效能更优;二者联合检测的灵敏度、特异度和曲线下面积分别为78.9%、59.5%和0.719。由此可见PIVKA-II和AFP联合检测能够一定程度地提高灵敏度、特异度和总体诊断效能。虽然,目前血清AFP及PIVKA-II水平升高对MVI的预测价值得到了广泛认可,同时已有研究显示联合检测能够一定程度地提高灵敏度、特异度和总体诊断效能。但关于两者最佳临界值的选择目前尚无统一标准。

2.3 基因及相关蛋白质

有研究发现某些蛋白质具有高度动态的时空调控过程和重要的生物学功能。它们对于通过转录后控制RNA的加工和运输来维持转录组至关重要,包括调节RNA剪接、多聚腺苷酸化、mRNA稳定性、mRNA定位和翻译^[24,25]。每个过程的改变都会影响RNA的生命周期,产生异常的蛋白质表型,从而导致肿瘤的发生和发展。黄成等^[26]通过基于iTRAQ的蛋白质组学分析检查具有不同血管浸润状态的HCC患者的血清。90例HCC病例的蛋白质印迹分析证实了对氧磷酶1(PON1)表达水平与血管浸润程度的相关性。ELISA检测证明了PON1水平的诊断效用,在另外387例HCC病例的队列中,相对于没有血管浸润的患者,MVI和大血管浸润的曲线下面积值分别为0.847和0.889。免疫组化显示,在另外200例HCC病例中,肿瘤细胞中PON1的表达与血管浸润程度呈负相关,最后分析出血清PON1是MVI的新型诊断生物标志物。Nicolas Poté等^[27]研究发现,与非MVI的HCC相比,MVI的HCC的hMOF在蛋白质水平上显著上调($P < 0.01$)。琦璐楠等^[28]通过cDNA微阵列分析鉴定出PVTT/MVI相关基因S100P,并通过大型回顾性和前瞻性队列研究评估血清S100P检测在HCC鉴别诊断和预测MVI状态中的潜

在价值, 研究得出血清S100P值可区分HCC患者和良性肝肿瘤患者, 并且具有一定的MVI预测潜力。黄飞等^[29]对包括111例HCC患者、53例患有潜在肝病变(ARD)的患者和41名健康供血者(HDs)在内的205名受试者的数据进行了回顾性分析。结果显示与ARD和HDs相比, HCC患者的血浆mSEPT9明显增加。血浆mSEPT9和维生素K缺乏或拮抗剂-II (PIVKA-II) 是MVI的独立预测因子。与mSEPT9或PIVKA-II的曲线下面积单独相比(AUC=0.67, 0.65), 这两种标记的组合表现出更大的曲线下面积(AUC=0.72)。虽然基因及蛋白检测对MVI的发生具有一定预测价值, 但由于其价格昂贵且操作技术困难, 目前尚未在临床上广泛使用。

3 展望与小结

总之, MVI作为HCC患者不良预后的重要危险因素, 目前仍然缺乏精确的术前诊断指标。目前关于检验指标与MVI发生的内在联系机制尚不清楚, 缺乏高质量的理论证据支持。当前对于MVI的术前预测主要来自单一机构的研究, 而且缺乏大样本和多中心研究的验证。因此, 未来需要进行更多前瞻性大样本的临床基础研究, 以提高术前预测MVI的准确性, 并为MVI阳性的HCC患者制定个性化治疗方案提供有效依据。

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