

长链非编码 RNA HOTAIR 在肿瘤多药耐药中的研究进展

毕 然, 刘克辛*

大连医科大学药学院 临床药理教研室, 辽宁 大连 116044

摘 要: HOX 转录反义 RNA (HOTAIR) 是首个被发现的参与癌症进程的长链非编码 RNA, 并具有反式调控作用。HOTAIR 在多种肿瘤中表达上调, 不仅参与肿瘤细胞多药耐药 (MDR) 的形成, 且与肿瘤的恶性程度和不良预后密切相关, 因此 HOTAIR 有望成为逆转肿瘤耐药新靶点。对 HOTAIR 及其在肿瘤 MDR 方面的研究进展做一综述, 以期为逆转肿瘤 MDR 的新药设计与研发提供思路。

关键词: 长链非编码 RNA; HOX 转录反义 RNA; 肿瘤治疗; 多药耐药

中图分类号: R962.2 **文献标志码:** A **文章编号:** 1674-6376 (2018) 06-0968-05

DOI: 10.7501/j.issn.1674-6376.2018.06.006

Progress on lncRNA HOTAIR in cancer drug resistance

BI Ran, LIU Kexin

Department of Clinical Pharmacology, College of Pharmacy, Dalian Medical University, Dalian 116044, China

Abstract: Hox transcript antisense RNA (HOTAIR) is the first lncRNA to be found involved in the process of cancer with the effect of trans-acting. HOTAIR is overexpressed in a variety of tumors. It participates in the formation of multidrug resistance (MDR) and is related to severity and poor prognosis of tumors. Therefore, HOTAIR is expected to become a new target for treatment of MDR. The present review summarizes recent progress in HOTAIR study in order to provide ideas for new drug design and research and development of reversal of MDR.

Key words: long noncoding RNA; Hox transcript antisense RNA; tumor; multidrug resistance

化疗是肿瘤治疗的重要手段, 然而随着给药时间的延长, 肿瘤对化疗药物不再敏感, 甚至对多种结构不同、作用机制不同的药物产生耐药性, 这种现象称作肿瘤多药耐药 (multidrug resistance, MDR)。长链非编码 RNA (long noncoding RNA, lncRNAs) 是非编码 RNA 中的一种, 其长度大于 200 个核苷酸^[1]。在过去的几十年中, lncRNAs 因其不具备编码蛋白质的能力而一度被视为基因组转录过程中的“噪音”^[2-3]。然而, 近些年来研究表明, lncRNAs 不仅参与 X 染色体沉默^[4-5]、基因组印记^[6-7]、染色质修饰^[8-10], 还参与抑癌基因失活^[11-12]、细胞周期调控^[13-15]等过程。HOX 转录反义 RNA (HOX transcript antisense RNA, HOTAIR) 是首个被发现的与肿瘤相关的 lncRNA, 定位于 12 号染色体 HOXC 基因簇的反义链, 与 HOXC 基因簇共表

达^[8, 16]。HOTAIR 可以与 PRC2 和 LSD1/CoREST/REST 结合^[17-18], 使染色体组蛋白 H3 第 27 位赖氨酸三甲基化和组蛋白 H3 第 4 位赖氨酸二甲基化。

肿瘤耐药机制及逆转仍然是肿瘤研究领域的难点, 近年来 lncRNA、HOTAIR 成为肿瘤 MDR 机制研究热点, 本文围绕 HOTAIR, 对近年来研究 HOTAIR 与 MDR 相关文章做一综述, 以期为逆转肿瘤 MDR 的新药设计与研发提供思路。

1 HOTAIR 与恶性肿瘤

HOTAIR 在多种肿瘤中表达上调, 在不同类型癌症的起始和发展中起着关键作用^[19-20]。为了探究 HOTAIR 表达水平与淋巴结转移的关系, Cai 等^[21]对 748 名患者参与的 8 项研究进行分析, 研究发现 HOTAIR 高水平表达的患者其淋巴结转移几率更大。此外, Alves 等^[22]发现 HOTAIR 在上皮间质

收稿日期: 2018-04-05

基金项目: 国家自然科学基金资助项目 (81473280)

第一作者: 毕 然 (1993—), 女, 硕士在读, 研究方向为药物转运体与药动学。Tel: 18840828009 E-mail: 1228764353@qq.com

*通信作者: 刘克辛, 男, 博士, 教授, 博士生导师, 研究方向为药物转运体与药动学。Tel: (0411)86110407 E-mail: liukexin89@163.com

转化(EMT)以及癌症干细胞(CSC)的产生和自我修复过程中起着关键性作用。HOTAIR在乳腺癌原发肿瘤和远端转移处均有高表达,且与不良预后相关^[23]。研究人员发现HOTAIR在胃癌组织中高表达,且影响肿瘤的侵袭、转移和不良预后,然而当沉默HOTAIR后,EMT进程可被逆转^[24]。另有研究者发现,HOTAIR可以抑制HOXD10、PTEN、RBM38等抑癌基因,并激活HER2致癌基因及Wnt/ β -catenin和PI3K/AKT信号通路^[25-26]。

近年来研究发现,HOTAIR涉及恶性肿瘤发展的多个进程,包括癌细胞的增殖、凋亡、侵袭和转移等^[23, 27-28]。此外,检测HOTAIR的表达水平可以帮助我们监测恶性肿瘤分期,以及预测患者的预后情况^[29-31]。因此,HOTAIR可以作为一种新型的生物标记分子被广泛用于多种恶性肿瘤的诊断与治疗。

2 HOTAIR与MDR的关系

化疗药物抵抗是肿瘤治疗领域极其困难且复杂的问题之一。肿瘤耐药性分为两大类,分别是原发性耐药和获得性耐药,其中获得性耐药又可分为原药耐药和多药耐药。肿瘤耐药机制包括药物代谢改变、细胞凋亡减少、DNA损伤修复增强等^[32]。

关于HOTAIR参与肿瘤MDR,近年来赢得越来越多的关注。HOTAIR已被证实多种癌症耐药细胞中呈现过表达状态,与肿瘤的恶性程度、不良预后密切相关。Milhem等^[33]发现,当肉瘤样本中HOTAIR表达较高时,经化疗或放疗治疗后的细胞坏死率较低,相反的,HOTAIR低表达组疗效有明显提升。Yang等^[34]发现沉默HOTAIR后,HepG₂细胞对于顺铂和阿霉素的敏感性有较大提升。此外,Chen等^[35]研究发现,肺腺癌组织与细胞中的HOTAIR表达水平与顺铂疗效呈负相关。

HOTAIR参与肿瘤细胞MDR见表1。

3 HOTAIR引起耐药的可能机制

HOTAIR可能通过多种途径参与肿瘤细胞MDR的产生,目前研究情况发现主要有调控细胞凋亡、增加药物外排转运体的表达、调控上皮-间质转化等。

3.1 调控细胞凋亡

HOTAIR可以通过凋亡调控因子参与MDR的产生。半胱氨酸天冬氨酸蛋白酶(caspase)家族是一种存在于细胞质中的蛋白酶,其与真核细胞凋亡密切相关,参与细胞的生长、分化与凋亡调节。Cheng^[37]等研究表明,HOTAIR通过调节caspase来

表1 HOTAIR在肿瘤耐药细胞中的表达情况

Table 1 Expression of HOTAIR in drug-resistance cells

抗肿瘤药	HOTAIR 表达	疾病
顺铂 ^[36]	+	肝细胞癌
顺铂 ^[37]	+	胃癌
顺铂 ^[38]	+	子宫内膜癌
顺铂 ^[39]	+	喉鳞状细胞癌
顺铂 ^[40]	+	卵巢癌
顺铂 ^[41]	+	肺腺癌
5-氟尿嘧啶 ^[42]	+	结肠直肠癌
吉非替尼 ^[43]	+	肺腺癌
吉西他滨 ^[44]	+	胰腺癌
他莫昔芬 ^[45]	+	乳腺癌
伊马替尼 ^[39]	+	慢性粒细胞白血病
克唑替尼 ^[46]	+	非小细胞肺癌

参与胃癌对顺铂耐药的形成,在SGC7901/DDP细胞中,沉默HOTAIR后,顺铂的半数抑制浓度(IC₅₀)显著降低,活化的caspase-3表达明显增高且细胞凋亡比例显著增高,同时抗凋亡蛋白Bcl-2表达明显降低,促凋亡蛋白Bax表达明显上调。p53是一种重要的凋亡调控因子,其可以作用于Bax、Bcl-2等蛋白,而HOTAIR则可通过调控p53活性,影响Bcl-2和Bax的表达,进而影响癌细胞的凋亡^[47]。

3.2 增加药物外排转运体的表达

药物转运体介导的肿瘤细胞多药耐药是近年来研究最为深入的耐药机制之一。绝大多数耐药细胞中外排性转运体均有较高表达,例如P-gp、MRP1、MRP2、BCRP等,其可将不同结构、不同机制的化疗药物排出细胞外,进而引起肿瘤细胞内药物浓度降低,影响药物对肿瘤细胞的毒性作用。

有研究者通过shRNA介导的基因沉默技术,检测SGC7901/DDP胃癌耐顺铂细胞系中HOTAIR表达降低时耐药株细胞对药物敏感性及其药物外排转运体的变化情况^[37]。结果显示,当沉默HOTAIR时,耐药株细胞对化疗药物敏感性增强,且研究人员通过蛋白印记实验发现P-gp、MRP1、BCRP的表达降低。Zhou等^[36]发现沉默HOTAIR可降低肝癌耐药细胞株中ABCB1的蛋白表达,恢复其对顺铂的敏感性。Yan等^[48]发现HOTAIR通过上调MRP1表达来介导胃癌细胞对顺铂耐药。以上结果表明,HOTAIR可以直接或间接调控药物外排性转运体的表达。

3.3 调控上皮-间质转化

上皮-间质转化(EMT)是指上皮细胞通过特定程序转化成具有间质表型细胞的生物学过程。近年来有研究者证明 EMT 参与化疗药物抵抗,所涉及的信号通路包含 Wnt/ β -catenin、转化生长因子(TGF- β)、PI3K/AKT 等。Li 等^[49]发现, HOTAIR 通过 Wnt/ β -catenin 信号通路介导卵巢癌细胞耐药。

3.4 其他

除了上述 HOTAIR 涉及的 MDR 形成机制, HOTAIR 还可通过其他信号通路介导 MDR 的形成。Özeş 等^[40]发现 HOTAIR 通过 NF- κ B 信号通路导致卵巢癌细胞衰老和化疗耐药。此外,有研究证实 HOTAIR 在耐他莫昔芬乳腺癌组织中高表达,其可通过激活雌激素受体(ER)促进乳腺癌对他莫昔芬耐药性的产生^[45]。另有研究发现 HOTAIR 可通过下调 p21WAF1/CIP1 参与肺腺癌对顺铂耐药^[41]。

4 结语

肿瘤 MDR 严重降低了化疗药物的疗效,因此逆转肿瘤 MDR 仍然是当今抗肿瘤研究的热点。HOTAIR 与肿瘤耐药密切相关,越来越多研究表明, HOTAIR 可以调节肿瘤细胞对化疗药物敏感性。因此, HOTAIR 可以成为一个新的检测肿瘤耐药性以及癌症预后评估指标。虽然现阶段 HOTAIR 对 MDR 的调节机制并不是完全明确,但随着研究的深入,以 HOTAIR 为靶点设计逆转肿瘤 MDR 药物将会为克服肿瘤耐药。

参考文献

- [1] Kapranov P, Cheng J, Dike S, et al. RNA maps reveal new RNA classes and a possible function for pervasive transcription [J]. *Science*, 2007, 316(5830): 1484-1488.
- [2] Ponjavic J, Ponting C P, Lunter G. Functionality or transcriptional noise evidence for selection within long noncoding RNAs [J]. *Gen Res*, 2007, 17(5): 556.
- [3] Wang J, Zhang J, Zheng H, et al. Mouse transcriptome: neutral evolution of 'non-coding' complementary DNAs [J]. *Nature*, 2004, 431(7010): 137-140.
- [4] Tian D, Sun S, Lee J T. The long noncoding RNA, Jpx, is a molecular switch for X chromosome inactivation [J]. *Cell*, 2010, 143(3): 390-403.
- [5] Mattick J S A, Paulo P, Dinger M E, Mercer T R, et al. RNA regulation of epigenetic processes [J]. *Bioessays*, 2009, 31(1): 51-59.
- [6] Mohammad F, Pandey R R, Nagano T, et al. Kcnq1ot1/Lit1 noncoding RNA mediates transcriptional silencing by targeting to the perinucleolar region [J]. *Mol Cell Biol*, 2008, 28(11): 3713-3728.
- [7] Pandey R R, Mondal T, Mohammad F, et al. Kcnq1ot1 antisense noncoding RNA mediates lineage-specific transcriptional silencing through chromatin-level regulation [J]. *Mol Cell*, 2008, 32(2): 232-246.
- [8] Rinn J L, Kertesz M, Wang J K, et al. Functional demarcation of active and silent chromatin domains in human HOX loci by noncoding RNAs [J]. *Cell*, 2007, 129(7): 1311.
- [9] Dinger M E, Amaral P P, Mercer T R, et al. Long noncoding RNAs in mouse embryonic stem cell pluripotency and differentiation [J]. *Gen Res*, 2008, 18(9): 1433-1445.
- [10] Guttman M, Amit I, Garber M, et al. Chromatin signature reveals over a thousand highly conserved large non-coding RNAs in mammals [J]. *Nature*, 2009, 458(7235): 223.
- [11] Gibb E A, Brown C J, Wan L L. The functional role of long non-coding RNA in human carcinomas [J]. *Mol Cancer*, 2011, 10(1): 38.
- [12] Tsai M C, Spitale R C, Chang H Y. Long intergenic noncoding RNAs: new links in cancer progression [J]. *Cancer Res*, 2011, 71(1): 3-7.
- [13] Kino T, Hurt D E, Ichijo T, et al. Noncoding RNA Gas5 is a growth arrest- and starvation-associated repressor of the glucocorticoid receptor [J]. *Sci Signal*, 2010, 3(107): ra8.
- [14] Mourtadamaarabouni M, Hedge V L, Kirkham L, et al. Growth arrest in human T-cells is controlled by the non-coding RNA growth-arrest-specific transcript 5 (GAS5) [J]. *J Cell Sci*, 2008, 121(Pt 7): 939.
- [15] Mourtadamaarabouni M, Pickard M R, Hedge V L, et al. GAS5, a non-protein-coding RNA, controls apoptosis and is downregulated in breast cancer [J]. *Oncogene*, 2009, 28(2): 195-208.
- [16] He S, Liu S, Zhu H. The sequence, structure and evolutionary features of HOTAIR in mammals [J]. *Bmc Evol Biol*, 2011, 11(1): 102.
- [17] Grier D G, Thompson A, Kwasniewska A, et al. The pathophysiology of HOX genes and their role in cancer [J]. *J Pathol*, 2005, 205(2): 154-171.
- [18] Tsai M C, Manor O, Wan Y, et al. Long noncoding RNA as modular scaffold of histone modification complexes [J]. *Science*, 2010, 329(5992): 689.
- [19] Huang L, Liao L M, Liu A W, et al. Overexpression of long noncoding RNA HOTAIR predicts a poor prognosis in patients with cervical cancer [J]. *Arch Gynecol Obst*, 2014, 290(4): 717-723.

- [20] Nie Y, Liu X, Qu S, et al. Long non-coding RNA HOTAIR is an independent prognostic marker for nasopharyngeal carcinoma progression and survival [J]. *Cancer Sci*, 2013, 104(4): 458-464.
- [21] Cai B, Wu Z, Liao K, et al. Long noncoding RNA HOTAIR can serve as a common molecular marker for lymph node metastasis: a meta-analysis [J]. *Tumor Biol*, 2014, 35(9): 8445-8450.
- [22] Cleidson P A, Aline Simoneti F, Bruna Rodrigues M, et al. Brief report: The lincRNA Hotair is required for epithelial-to-mesenchymal transition and stemness maintenance of cancer cell lines [J]. *Stem Cell*, 2013, 31(12): 2827-2832.
- [23] Chen F J, Sun M, Li S Q, et al. Upregulation of the long non-coding RNA HOTAIR promotes esophageal squamous cell carcinoma metastasis and poor prognosis [J]. *Mol Carcinogen*, 2013, 52(11): 908-915.
- [24] Xu Z Y, Yu Q M, Du Y A, et al. Knockdown of long non-coding RNA HOTAIR suppresses tumor invasion and reverses epithelial-mesenchymal transition in gastric cancer [J]. *Int J Biol Sci*, 2013, 9(6): 587-597.
- [25] Li D, Feng J, Wu T, et al. Long intergenic noncoding RNA HOTAIR is overexpressed and regulates PTEN methylation in laryngeal squamous cell carcinoma [J]. *Am J Pathol*, 2013, 182(1): 64-70.
- [26] Staff T P O. Correction: The long non-coding HOTAIR is modulated by cyclic stretch and WNT/ β -CATENIN in human aortic valve cells and is a novel repressor of calcification genes [J]. *Plos One*, 2014, 9(5): e96577.
- [27] Gupta R A, Shah N, Wang K C, et al. Long non-coding RNA HOTAIR reprograms chromatin state to promote cancer metastasis [J]. *Nature*, 2010, 464(7291): 1071-1076.
- [28] Sørensen K P, Thomassen M, Tan Q, et al. Long non-coding RNA HOTAIR is an independent prognostic marker of metastasis in estrogen receptor-positive primary breast cancer [J]. *Breast Cancer Res Treat*, 2013, 142(3): 529-536.
- [29] Endo H, Shiroki T, Nakagawa T, et al. Enhanced expression of long non-coding RNA HOTAIR is associated with the development of gastric cancer [J]. *Plos One*, 2013, 8(10): e77070.
- [30] Hajjari M, Behmanesh M, Sadeghizadeh M, et al. Up-regulation of HOTAIR long non-coding RNA in human gastric adenocarcinoma tissues [J]. *Med Oncol*, 2013, 30(3): 670.
- [31] Wu Y, Zhang L, Wang Y, et al. Long noncoding RNA HOTAIR involvement in cancer [J]. *Tumour Biol*, 2014, 35(10): 9531-9538.
- [32] 蒲聪颖, 李 珊, 张媛媛. 肿瘤耐药性产生的分子机制研究进展 [J]. *四川生理科学杂志*, 2015, (2): 89-93.
- [33] Milhem M M, Knutson T, Yang S, et al. Correlation of MTDH/AEG-1 and HOTAIR expression with metastasis and response to treatment in sarcoma patients [J]. *J Cancer Sci Ther*, 2011, S5(4): 301-302.
- [34] Yang Z, Zhou L, Wu L M, et al. Overexpression of Long non-coding RNA HOTAIR predicts tumor recurrence in hepatocellular carcinoma patients following liver transplantation [J]. *Ann Surg Oncol*, 2011, 18(5): 1243-1250.
- [35] Chen J, Li J, Han Q, et al. Enhancer of zeste homolog 2 is overexpressed and contributes to epigenetic inactivation of p21 and phosphatase and tensin homolog in B-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia [J]. *Exper Biol Med*, 2012, 237(9): 1110.
- [36] Zhou J, Cheng D, He X, et al. Knockdown of long non-coding RNA HOTAIR sensitizes hepatocellular carcinoma cell to cisplatin by suppressing the STAT3/ABCB1 signaling pathway [J]. *Oncol Lett*, 2017, 14(6): 7986-7992.
- [37] Cheng C, Qin Y, Zhi Q, et al. Knockdown of long non-coding RNA HOTAIR inhibits cisplatin resistance of gastric cancer cells through inhibiting the PI3K/Akt and Wnt/ β -catenin signaling pathways by up-regulating miR-34a [J]. *Int J Biol Macromol*, 2018, 107(Pt B): 2620-2629.
- [38] Sun M Y, Zhu J Y, Zhang C Y, et al. Autophagy regulated by lncRNA HOTAIR contributes to the cisplatin-induced resistance in endometrial cancer cells [J]. *Biotech Lett*, 2017, 39(10): 1-8.
- [39] Wang H, Qian L, Tang S, et al. The role of long noncoding RNA HOTAIR in the acquired multidrug resistance to imatinib in chronic myeloid leukemia cells [J]. *Hematology*, 2017, 22(4): 208-216.
- [40] Özeş A R, Miller D F, Özeş O N, et al. NF- κ B-HOTAIR axis links DNA damage response, chemoresistance and cellular senescence in ovarian cancer [J]. *Oncogene*, 2016, 35(41): 5350-5361.
- [41] Liu Z, Sun M, Lu K, et al. The long noncoding RNA HOTAIR contributes to cisplatin resistance of human lung adenocarcinoma cells via downregulation of p21 WAF1/CIP1 expression [J]. *Plos One*, 2013, 8(10): e77293.
- [42] Li P, Zhang X, Wang L, et al. lncRNA HOTAIR contributes to 5-FU resistance through suppressing miR-218 and activating NF- κ B/TS signaling in colorectal

- cancer [J]. *Mol Therap Nucleic acids*, 2017, 8: 356-369.
- [43] Liu Y, Liu Y, Jiang H, et al. Lentivirus-mediated silencing of HOTAIR lncRNA restores gefitinib sensitivity by activating Bax/Caspase-3 and suppressing TGF- α /EGFR signaling in lung adenocarcinoma [J]. *Oncol Lett*, 2018, 15(3): 2829-2838.
- [44] Wang L, Dong P, Wang W, et al. Gemcitabine treatment causes resistance and malignancy of pancreatic cancer stem-like cells via induction of lncRNA HOTAIR [J]. *Exper Therap Med*, 2017, 14(5): 4773-4780.
- [45] Xue X, Yang Y A, Zhang A, et al. LncRNA HOTAIR enhances ER signaling and confers tamoxifen resistance in breast cancer [J]. *Oncogene*, 2016, 35(21): 2746-2755.
- [46] Yang Y, Jiang C, Yang Y, et al. Silencing of LncRNA-HOTAIR decreases drug resistance of Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer cells by inactivating autophagy via suppressing the phosphorylation of ULK1 [J]. *Biochem Biophys Res Commun*, 2018, 497(4): 1003-1010.
- [47] Teodoro J G, Evans S K, Green M R. Inhibition of tumor angiogenesis by p53: a new role for the guardian of the genome [J]. *J Mol Med*, 2007, 85(11): 1175-1186.
- [48] Yan J, Dang Y, Liu S, et al. LncRNA HOTAIR promotes cisplatin resistance in gastric cancer by targeting miR-126 to activate the PI3K/AKT/MRP1 genes [J]. *Tum Biol J Int Soc Oncodevelop Biol Med*, 2016, 37(12): 1-11.
- [49] Li J, Yang S, Su N, et al. Erratum to: Overexpression of long non-coding RNA HOTAIR leads to chemoresistance by activating the Wnt/ β -catenin pathway in human ovarian cancer [J]. *Tumor Biol*, 2016, 37(2): 2057-2065.