

酒石酸美托洛尔调节 TGF- β /Smad 信号通路抑制大鼠胸主动脉瘤进程的机制研究

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摘要:目的 研究酒石酸美托洛尔通过调节转化生长因子- β (TGF- β) /Smad 信号通路抑制大鼠胸主动脉瘤 (TAA) 进程的分子机制。方法 暴露大鼠胸降主动脉 1 cm, 将已用 0.5 mol/L 的氯化钙浸泡好的棉纱覆盖血管外膜 15~20 min, 建立 TAA 模型, 设置模型组和酒石酸美托洛尔高、中、低剂量 (0.60、0.30、0.15 mg/kg) 组, 另取 10 只大鼠作为对照组, 每天 1 次, 连续 ig 给药 4 周, 模型组和对照组 ig 等体积蒸馏水。对大鼠生理活动进行观察和记录, HE 染色观察动脉管腔面改变; 实时荧光定量 PCR (qRT-PCR) 和 Western blotting 对大鼠 TAA 组织中的 TGF- β 、Smad2、Smad3 的表达水平进行检测。结果 与对照组比较, 模型组大鼠进食较少, 体质量减轻, 精神萎靡, 毛发杂乱, 无光泽, 活动减少; 酒石酸美托洛尔组与模型组比较, 生理状态好转; HE 染色显示, 对照组主动脉壁弹力板排列规则、紧密, 呈波浪形膜状; 模型组动脉瘤壁的弹力板平直, 并且有断裂现象; 与模型组比较, 酒石酸美托洛尔组弹力板断裂减少, 动脉壁呈波浪形膜状。与对照组比较, 模型组瘤组织中的 TGF- β 、Smad2、Smad3 的 mRNA、蛋白表达水平均显著上调 ($P < 0.05$); 与模型组织比较, 酒石酸美托洛尔组 TGF- β 、Smad2、Smad3 的 mRNA、蛋白表达水平均显著下调 ($P < 0.05$), 且呈剂量相关性。结论 酒石酸美托洛尔通过调节 TGF- β /Smad 信号通路抑制大鼠 TAA 的进程。

关键词: 酒石酸美托洛尔; TGF- β /Smad 信号通路; 胸主动脉瘤

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Metoprolol tartrate suppressed thoracic aortic aneurysms progression of rats by regulating TGF- β /Smad signal pathway

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Abstract: Objective To investigate metoprolol tartrate regulated TGF- β /Smad signal pathway suppressed thoracic aortic aneurysms progression. **Methods** After exposing the descending thoracic aorta of rats for 1 cm, the cotton yarn immersed in 0.5 mol/L calcium chloride was covered with adventitia for 15 ~ 20 minutes to establish TAA model. The model group, the high, medium and low dose of metoprolol tartrate (0.60, 0.30, 0.15 mg/kg) group were set up, another 10 rats were taken as control group. Corresponding drugs was ig administered once a day for four weeks, distilled water was ig administered in model group and control group. The physiological activities of rats were observed and recorded, HE staining was used to observe the changes of arterial lumen surface. TGF- β , Smad2, Smad3 mRNA detected by real time PCR, and TGF- β , Smad2, Smad3 protein level analyzed by western blotting. **Results** Compared with control group, rats in model group ate less, had lighter body weight, mental retardation, disordered hair, no luster and less activity; compared with model group, the physiological state of the rats in the metoprolol tartrate group improved. HE staining showed that the elastic plates in the aortic wall of the control group were arranged regularly and tightly in a wavy membrane shape; the elastic plates in the aneurysm wall of the model group were straight and fractured; compared with the model group, the elastic plates in the metoprolol tartrate group were less fractured and the arterial wall was wavy membrane shape. Compared with the control group, the expression levels of TGF- β , Smad2 and Smad3 in model group were significantly increased ($P < 0.05$); compared with model group, the expression levels of TGF- β , Smad2 and Smad3 in the metoprolol tartrate group were significantly decreased ($P < 0.05$), and there was a dose-dependent relationship. **Conclusion** metoprolol regulated TGF- β /Smad signal pathway suppressed

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thoracic aortic aneurysms progression.

Key words: metoprolol tartrate; TGF- β /Smad signal pathway; thoracic aortic aneurysms

动脉瘤是影响主动脉的第二大最常见疾病,据统计,全球每年每10万人中就有2.6例动脉瘤破裂死亡^[1]。主动脉生长通常是进行性的,没有直接的药物治疗。当主动脉瘤导致的风险大于手术风险时进行手术切除,预防性手术切除用于预防长期并发症,如破裂或剥离^[2]。采用非侵入性药物治疗预防主动脉进一步生长可减轻手术负担,预防急性主动脉并发症^[3]。据报道,在过去几十年里,胸主动脉瘤(thoracic aortic aneurysm, TAA)的发病率一直呈上升趋势^[4]。TAA的发生与年龄、性别无关,是由多种原因导致的主动脉壁结构破坏、强度减弱,发生瘤样扩张或膨出的高危性疾病^[5-6]。TAA大多是遗传的,许多基因突变导致TAA的发生,如FBN、ACTA、MYH、MYLK、TGFB2、TGFB3、TGFB1、TGFB2、Smad3、Smad4等^[7-15]。尽管外科手术及非侵入性药物治疗提高了TAA患者的存活率,但是对TAA作用的分子机制的研究尚未完全清楚。

转化生长因子- β (TGF- β)/Smad信号通路由TGF- β 家族、TGF- β 受体及受体底物Smad蛋白家族组成,TGF- β 在细胞增殖、凋亡、上皮间质转化、转移及侵袭等过程中发挥重要作用,具有TGF- β I及TGF- β II两种细胞表面受体,主要参与TGF- β 信号的转运^[16-20]。经典的信号通路,TGF- β 与TGF- β II结合并将其磷酸化,再激活TGF- β I,完成信号的跨膜转导,进一步激活下游Smad2/3并进行磷酸化,再与Smad4结合,并向细胞核内转移,作为转录因子调控靶基因的翻译,完成信号转导^[21-23]。据报道,TGF- β /Smad信号通路相关基因发生突变导致TAA相关的多种综合征的发生,如马凡氏综合征(MFS)、洛伊迪兹综合征(LDS)、动脉瘤骨关节炎综合征(AOS)和幼年性息肉病综合征(JPS)^[24]等。

本研究通过构建TAA大鼠模型,采用酒石酸美托洛尔进行治疗,观察酒石酸美托洛尔是否通过调控TGF- β /Smad信号通路调节小鼠TAA的发生及转移。

1 材料

1.1 实验动物

SD雄性健康大鼠50只,2月龄,体质量为250~300 g,购买于广州中医药大学实验动物中心,实验动物生产许可证号SYXK(粤)2017-0179。

1.2 药品及主要试剂

酒石酸美托洛尔,商品名为倍他乐克,购自阿

斯利康药业(中国)有限公司,生产批号H32025391。Trizol reagent试剂、一步法逆转录试剂盒及SYBR Green Real-Time PCR MasterMix试剂盒购买于Invitrogen公司;RAPI蛋白裂解液及BCA试剂盒购买自Invitrogen公司;抗体TGF- β 、Smad2/3、GAPDH均购买于Abcam公司;山羊血清购买于全式金;ECL化学发光液从BioRAD公司购买。

1.3 主要仪器

冷冻离心机、微量移液器,德国Eppendorf公司;7900荧光定量PCR仪,美国ABI公司;高压灭菌锅、4℃冰箱,日本Sanyo公司;-80℃冰箱、NanoDrop 2000,美国赛默飞公司;电泳仪、电泳转膜仪、PCR仪及化学发光凝胶成像系统,美国伯乐公司;半自动脱水机、包埋机、切片机、烤片机及倒置荧光显微镜,德国莱卡公司;冰冻切片机Cryotome E,美国赛默飞公司。

2 方法

2.1 TAA模型的建立

术前sc阿托品0.1 mg/kg, im青霉素10 000 IU,分组后通过ip 0.4%戊巴比妥钠(40 mg/kg)进行麻醉,气管切开后行气管内插管并固定,连接小动物呼吸机,调整呼吸频率为100次/min,吸呼比率1:1.5,压力支持0.01 MPa。在胸骨左缘第5肋间开胸,充分显露胸降主动脉,游离动脉,暴露约1 cm,将已用0.5 mol/L的氯化钙浸泡好的棉纱覆盖血管外膜15~20 min,待血管明显改变及扩张后移除棉纱,待肉眼可见血管扩张约1.5倍,生理盐水冲洗胸腔。适当调整呼吸机促进左肺复张后,留置胸腔引流管(20 G套管针)以5-0 Prolene滑线逐层缝合关闭胸腔,于胸腔引流管充分排气及抽取胸腔积液后,撤除呼吸机,在充分清理呼吸道分泌物后,用6-0 Prolene滑线缝闭气管及皮肤,拔管后放回笼中。术后4 h给鼠饲料及饮用水。术后连续3 d im青霉素10 000 IU。造模成功后^[25],将大鼠随机分为模型组和酒石酸美托洛尔高、中、低剂量(0.60、0.30、0.15 mg/kg)组,每组10只;另取10只大鼠作为对照组。每天ig给药1次,模型组和对照组ig等体积蒸馏水,连续4周。

2.2 Western blotting检测TGF- β 、Smad2/3蛋白表达

取适量的瘤体组织,加入适量的RIPA蛋白裂解

液及PMSF,超声匀浆破碎,离心取上清,BCA法进行蛋白浓度测定,计算上样量。95℃变性10 min,10% SDS胶进行电泳分离蛋白,将蛋白转移至PVDF膜上,含有5%脱脂牛奶的TBST封闭1 h,分别加入TGF- β 抗体(1:2 000)、Smad2/3抗体(1:1 000)、GAPDH抗体(1:3 000),4℃过夜孵育,次日,移弃一抗,TBST清洗3次后,加入二抗(1:5 000)常温摇床孵育1 h,然后显影曝光,Image J测定目的条带与内参GAPDH的灰度值比值反应蛋白表达水平。

2.3 实时荧光定量PCR(qRT-PCR)检测TGF- β 、Smad2/3 mRNA表达水平

使用Trizol试剂提取肿瘤组织中总RNA,NanoDrop 2000检测RNA的浓度及纯度,进行逆转录合成cDNA,使用SYBR green qPCR试剂盒对TGF- β 、Smad2/3 mRNA表达水平进行检测,以GAPDH作为内参对照,实验设置3个重复。引物序列如表1,由昆明擎科生物科技有限公司合成。

表1 Real-time PCR引物序列
Table 1 primer sequences of PCR

基因	引物序列5'-3'
TGF- β	GACCGCAACAACGCAATCTATGAC TGCTCCACAGTTGACTTGAATCTCTG
Smad2	GCAGGTGGTGGAGAACAGAAT CCGTATTTGCTGTACTCAGTCCC
Smad3	CAGGAGGAGAAGTGGTGCGA TGGTGTTACGTTCTGCGTG
GAPDH	GGCACAGTCAAGGCTGAGAATG ATGGTGGTGAAGACGCCAGTA

2.4 HE染色

将组织标本进行剪切,大小以1.5 cm×1.5 cm×0.3 cm为宜,不宜过厚。将切好的组织用生理盐水稍作冲洗,立即投入10%福尔马林固定液中,固定40 min。把装有组织块的包埋盒放入广口瓶内,将瓶置于自来水龙头下,用流水冲洗。注意调节流水速度,使组织块随水轻轻翻动为宜,不可水量过大冲坏组织。冲洗12~24 h。洗涤完成后,用吸水纸将组织上的水分吸干,放于有盖的玻璃器皿中,依次用70%、80%、90%酒精作用50、40、30 min,再用95%、100%酒精各作用两次,每次30 min,进行脱水。

密闭容器内,乙醇与二甲苯等体积混合,作用组织块20 min,二甲苯(I)与二甲苯(II)各自作用20 min进行透明。组织块浸蜡、切4~8 μ m薄

片,切好后贴片于载玻片上,放入37℃恒温箱中烘烤24 h左右。进行HE染色前,石蜡切片先后倒入二甲苯(I)与二甲苯(II),各作用5 min,进行脱蜡。用无水乙醇(I)和无水乙醇(II)分别浸泡2 min;再先后倒入95%乙醇、80%乙醇和70%乙醇,分别浸泡1 min;自来水洗2 min,最后用蒸馏水浸泡2 min。苏木精染液浸泡10 min,用自来水冲洗,洗去浮色;再倒入1%盐酸酒精作用20~40 s;最后用自来水蓝化15 min。用伊红染液浸泡2 min,然后用蒸馏水速洗30 s,染色结束后,将切片进行脱水、透明及固封,即可在显微镜下进行观察。

2.5 统计方法

采用SPSS 19.0进行数据统计,数据以 $\bar{x} \pm s$ 表示,多组间比较采用单因素ANOVA进行检测。

3 结果

3.1 大鼠生理活动及HE染色观察

大鼠处死前,对各组大鼠的表型进行观察,发现对照组大鼠精神状态佳,进食饮水正常,毛发整齐滑亮,活动多,性格温顺;模型组大鼠则出现进食较少,体质量减轻,精神萎靡,毛发杂乱,无光泽,活动减少;与模型组比较,酒石酸美托洛尔治疗组大鼠进食相对正常,精神状态相对活跃,毛发稍杂乱,有一定光泽度,活动相对活跃。HE染色可见,对照组主动脉壁弹力板排列规则、紧密,呈波浪形膜状;模型组动脉瘤壁的弹力板平直,并且有断裂现象;与模型组比较,酒石酸美托洛尔组弹力板断裂减少,与对照组动脉相似,呈波浪形膜状。结果见图1。

3.2 大鼠TGF- β /Smad信号通路相关基因mRNA表达情况

与对照组比较,模型组TGF- β 、Smad2、Smad3 mRNA表达水平显著上调($P<0.05$);与模型组比较,酒石酸美托洛尔组TGF- β 、Smad2、Smad3 mRNA表达水平显著下调($P<0.05$),且呈剂量相关性。见图2。

3.3 大鼠TGF- β /Smad信号通路相关蛋白表达

通过Western blotting检测各组大鼠体内的TGF- β 、Smad2、Smad3蛋白表达情况,结果显示,与对照组比较,模型组中TGF- β 、Smad2、Smad3的蛋白表达水平显著上调($P<0.05$);与模型组比较,酒石酸美托洛尔组TGF- β 、Smad2、Smad3蛋白表达水平显著下调($P<0.05$)。见图3。

4 讨论

TAA是指胸主动脉直径超过正常值的1.5倍,

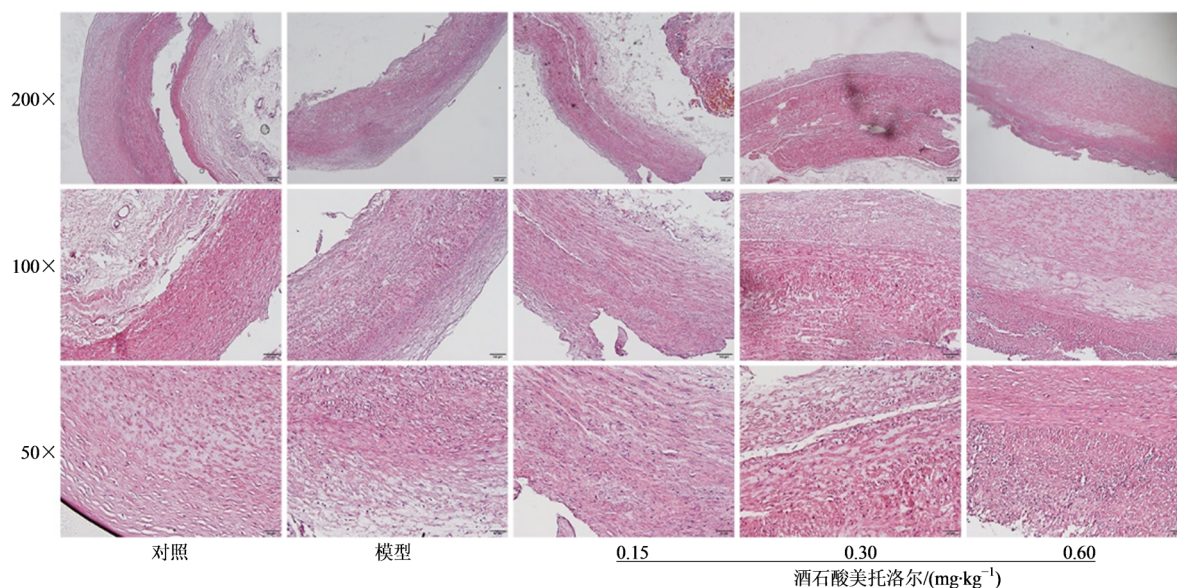


图1 胸主动脉HE染色,示动脉管腔面改变

Fig. 1 HE staining of thoracic aorta, showing arterial lumen changes

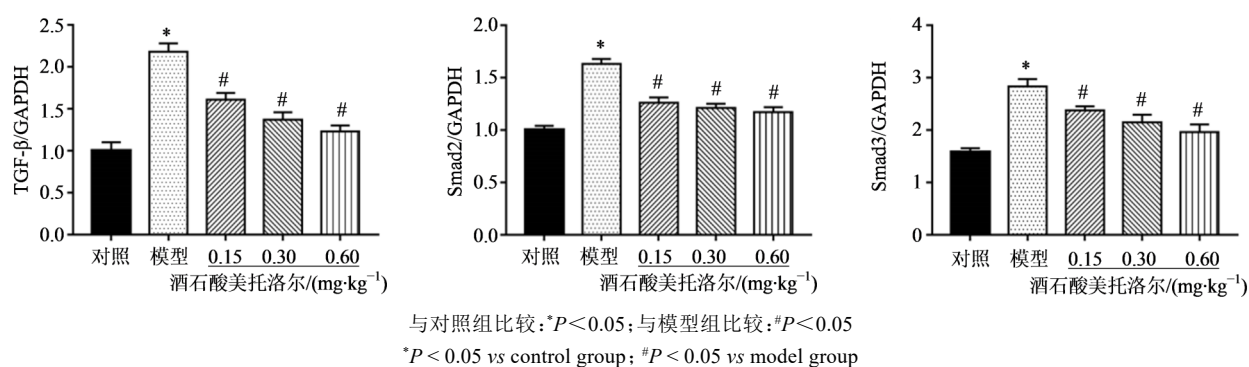


图2 酒石酸美托洛尔治疗后大鼠TGF- β /Smad信号通路相关基因mRNA表达情况($\bar{x} \pm s, n = 3$)

Fig. 2 mRNA expression of gene correlation of TGF- β /Smad signaling pathway in rats after treatment with metoprolol($\bar{x} \pm s, n = 3$)

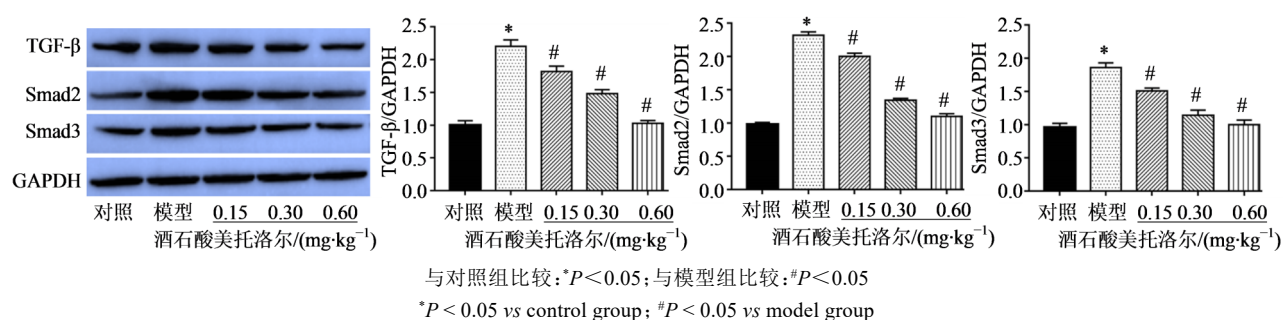


图3 酒石酸美托洛尔治疗后大鼠TGF- β /Smad信号通路相关蛋白表达情况($\bar{x} \pm s, n = 3$)

Fig. 3 Protein of TGF- β /Smad signaling pathway in rats after treatment with metoprolol($\bar{x} \pm s, n = 3$)

是一种高危疾病,在发生致命性破裂或夹层前无明显
的病征。目前遗传相关型TAA和家族型TAA都
已经找到明确的基因缺陷位点,比如马凡氏综合征
FBN1基因突变^[26-27]、洛伊迪兹综合征TGF β R1和
TGF β R2基因突变^[27],IV型埃莱尔-当洛综合征中
COL3A1基因突变^[28],家族型TAA的ACTA2、

MYH11及TGF β R2基因突变^[27-29]等。酒石酸美托洛
尔是美托洛尔的一种新剂型,是一种选择性的 β 1受
体阻滞剂,广泛用于高血压、心绞痛、伴有左心室收
缩功能异常的症状稳定的慢性心力衰竭等^[30-32]。本
研究通过构建TAA大鼠模型,使用高、中、低3剂量
酒石酸美托洛尔治疗,结果显示,酒石酸美托洛尔

治疗后TAA大鼠生理活动明显得到改善,且TGF- β 、Smad2、Smad3的表达水平明显下调。

TGF- β 1是具有调节细胞外基质代谢及炎症反应的重要多功能性细胞因子,在包括硬皮病等结缔组织疾病、肺气肿、乳腺癌及一些先天性的血管疾病中均检测出异常^[33],TGF- β 1在细胞外基质代谢的调节中有不可或缺的作用,TGF- β 信号转导异常则可能导致多种疾病的发生,如胚胎发育异常、肿瘤、组织纤维化、心血管疾病和免疫疾病等^[34-36]。TGF- β /Smad信号通路与动脉粥样硬化等多种器官硬化及纤维化等密切相关,TGF- β 1是细胞的重要因子之一,有6种不同的亚型,在体内分布广泛,具有多功能、多向调节生长等作用,能够促进细胞外基质(ECM)的生成,即通过促进胶原纤维、纤黏连蛋白、层黏连蛋白等合成,同时抑制基质降解酶的活性,减少ECM降解^[37]。Smad是TGF- β 1下游的信号转导分子且为重要靶点,分为受体调节型、通用型及抑制型,受体调节型可直接与活化的I型受体结合而磷酸化,如Smad1、Smad2、Smad3、Smad5、Smad8,通用型如Smad4,抑制性如Smad6、Smad7^[38-39]。近年来,在在主动脉瘤相关性疾病的研究中发现,如家族性动脉瘤、马凡氏综合征、洛伊迪兹综合征等患者中^[9,27],TGF- β 1的表达水平显著上调,TGF- β 1通过上调结缔组织生长因子(CTGF)引起中动脉壁组织胶原增生及透明样物质增生^[40]。本研究发现,使用酒石酸美托洛尔治疗TAA模型大鼠,大鼠的生理状态等较模型组发生明显的改变,进一步对瘤体组织中TGF- β 、Smad2、Smad3的表达水平进行检测,结果显示TGF- β 及下游Smad2、Smad3的表达水平显著低于模型组。

本研究表明酒石酸美托洛尔改善TAA大鼠的生理状态,并揭示其分子机制与调节TGF- β /Smad信号通路相关,为临床治疗TAA提供参考依据。

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