

· 临床研究 ·

C 反应蛋白、降钙素原联合中性粒细胞/淋巴细胞比值对老年糖尿病患者感染奥密克戎变异株住院期间发生主要心血管不良事件的预测价值

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【摘要】目的 探讨血清炎症指标 C 反应蛋白(CRP)、降钙素原(PCT)联合中性粒细胞/淋巴细胞比值(NLR)对老年(≥60岁)汉族糖尿病患者感染新型冠状病毒(SARS-CoV-2)奥密克戎(Omicron)变异株住院期间发生主要心血管不良事件(MACE)的预测价值。**方法** 连续纳入2022年12月至2023年2月因感染奥密克戎变异株于徐州医科大学附属医院住院的1038例老年患者为研究对象,排除94例,最终944例患者纳入数据分析。根据是否合并糖尿病将患者分为糖尿病组($n=189$)和非糖尿病组($n=755$)。根据住院期间有无发生MACE将糖尿病组患者分为MACE组($n=89$)和非MACE组($n=100$)。采用SPSS 25.0统计软件进行数据分析。根据数据类型,分别采用t检验、Mann-Whitney U检验或 χ^2 检验进行组间比较。采用logistic回归和受试者工作特征(ROC)曲线分析血清中炎症指标(PCT、CRP 和 NLR)对老年糖尿病患者感染奥密克戎变异株住院期间发生MACE的影响因素及预测价值。**结果** 944例患者中,住院期间发生MACE 244例(25.8%)。与非糖尿病组患者比较,糖尿病组患者MACE发生率更高(47.1%和20.5%),差异有统计学意义($P<0.05$)。与非MACE组相比,MACE组患者年龄更大、空腹血糖更高、既往脑梗死病史比例更大;血清炎症指标PCT、CRP、NLR及白细胞计数(WBC)均高于非MACE组,差异均有统计学意义($P<0.05$)。多因素logistic回归分析提示,年龄($OR=1.062, 95\%CI 1.009 \sim 1.118, P=0.021$)、PCT($OR=1.614, 95\%CI 1.340 \sim 1.943, P<0.001$)、CRP($OR=1.008, 95\%CI 1.000 \sim 1.016, P=0.038$)及NLR($OR=1.261, 95\%CI 1.103 \sim 1.441, P=0.001$)是老年糖尿病患者感染奥密克戎变异株住院期间发生MACE的独立危险因素。**ROC**曲线及Delong检验显示,与单一炎症指标相比,PCT联合CRP、NLR对老年糖尿病患者住院期间发生MACE具有更好的临床预测价值。**结论** 血清炎症指标PCT、CRP和NLR,对老年糖尿病患者感染奥密克戎变异株住院期间发生MACE具有较好的预测价值。

【关键词】 老年人; 奥密克戎变异株; 糖尿病; 心血管疾病; 炎症指标

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Predictive value of C-reactive protein and procalcitonin combined with neutrophil/lymphocyte ratio for major adverse cardiovascular events in elderly diabetic patients infected with Omicron variant during hospitalization

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[Abstract] **Objective** To investigate the predictive value of serum inflammatory indicators C-reactive protein (CRP) and procalcitonin (PCT) combined with neutrophil/lymphocyte ratio (NLR) in predicting major adverse cardiovascular events (MACE) in the elderly (≥60 years old) diabetic Han Chinese infected with severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) Omicron variant during hospitalization. **Methods** All 1038 consecutive elderly patients hospitalized in the Affiliated Hospital of Xuzhou Medical University due to infection with the Omicron variant were enrolled from December 2022 to February 2023, and 94 were excluded, leaving 944 for final analysis. Patients were divided into diabetes mellitus (DM) group ($n=189$) and non-DM group ($n=755$) according to the presence of diabetes mellitus. Based on occurrence of MACE during hospitalization, they were divided into MACE group ($n=89$) and non-MACE group ($n=100$). SPSS statistics 25.0 was used for data analysis. Based on the data type, student's t test, Mann-Whitney U test, or Chi-square test was employed for intergroup comparison. Multivariate logistic regression analysis and receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curve were used to analyze the influence of serum inflammatory indicators (PCT, CRP and NLR) and their predictive value for MACE in the elderly diabetic patients during hospitalization. **Results** Of the 944 elderly patients, 244 (25.8%) had MACE during hospitalization. Diabetic patients had a higher rate of MACE than non-diabetic patients (47.1% vs 20.5%), and the difference

was statistically significant. Among diabetic patients, compared with the non-MACE group, the MACE group were older, had higher fasting blood glucose, had a significant higher proportion of patients with a history of cerebral infarction, higher levels of all three serum inflammatory indexes (PCT, CRP, and NLR), and a higher white blood cell (WBC) count, the differences being statistically significant ($P < 0.05$). Multivariate logistic regression analysis showed that age ($OR = 1.062$, 95%CI 1.009–1.118; $P = 0.021$), PCT ($OR = 1.614$, 95%CI 1.340–1.943; $P < 0.001$), CRP ($OR = 1.008$, 95%CI 1.000–1.016; $P = 0.038$), and NLR ($OR = 1.261$, 95%CI 1.103–1.441; $P = 0.001$) were independent predictors of MACE in elderly diabetic patients infected with the Omicron variant during hospitalization. The ROC curve and Delong test indicated that the PCT+CRP+NLR model had a better clinical predictive value for MACE in the patients during hospitalization than single inflammatory indicators. **Conclusion** Serum inflammatory indicators PCT, CRP, and NLR have good predictive power for MACEs in the elderly diabetic patients infected with the Omicron variant during hospitalization.

[Key words] aged; Omicron variant; diabetes mellitus; cardiovascular disease; inflammation markers

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奥密克戎变异株是近期全球新型冠状病毒肺炎 (coronavirus disease 2019, COVID-19) 疫情的主要流行株, 尽管大多数感染者症状轻微且预后良好, 但在老年群体中重症率及死亡率仍不容乐观^[1,2]。主要心血管不良事件 (major adverse cardiovascular events, MACE) 是感染急性期最常见的并发症, 是患者死亡的重要影响因素^[3,4]。现有研究发现奥密克戎变异株的侵袭性炎症反应能够导致“细胞因子风暴”, 与患者病情严重程度和不良预后直接相关^[5,6]; 新近研究发现感染 COVID-19 合并心血管疾病的患者的血清中降钙素原 (procalcitonin, PCT) 和 C 反应蛋白 (C-reactive protein, CRP) 水平明显高于普通患者^[7], 但有关老年糖尿病等特殊人群的研究鲜有报道。本研究拟探讨血清炎症因子对老年糖尿病患者感染奥密克戎变异株住院期间发生 MACE 的预测价值, 从而为改善老年糖尿病患者的结局提供理论参考。

1 对象与方法

1.1 研究对象

连续纳入 2022 年 12 月至 2023 年 2 月于徐州医科大学附属医院住院的 1038 例感染奥密克戎变异株的老年患者为研究对象。纳入标准: (1) 年龄 ≥ 60 岁; (2) 所有患者均经 SARS-CoV-2 RNA 检测及血液常规检验, 诊断符合《新型冠状病毒肺炎诊疗方案(试行第九版)》^[8]; (3) 确诊为糖尿病, 糖尿病诊断符合中国老年 2 型糖尿病防治临床指南(2022 年版)中的诊断标准^[9]。排除标准: (1) COVID-19 复阳; (2) 既往使用肾上腺糖皮质激素、免疫抑制剂; (3) 临床数据不全与缺失。所有患者的基线特征从病历系统获得, 包括年龄、性别、体质指数、既往疾病史等。MACE 定义为: 非致死性心肌梗死、心力衰竭、卒中、严重心律失常及全因死亡。

1.2 方法

(1) 样品采集: 所有患者在入院次日清晨空腹

时采集静脉血 5 ml 分别置入普通采血管及 EDTA-K2 抗凝采血管中。(2) 检测方法: 利用酶联免疫吸附法 (enzyme linked immunosorbent assay, ELISA) 检测血清中 PCT、CRP、中性粒细胞及淋巴细胞水平, 操作步骤依据 ELISA 试剂盒(广州春康生物科技有限公司、罗氏有限公司、浙江佰辰医疗科技有限公司)说明书进行。

1.3 统计学处理

采用 SPSS 25.0 统计软件进行数据分析。符合正态分布的计量资料以均数 \pm 标准差 ($\bar{x} \pm s$) 表示, 组间比较采用 t 检验; 不符合正态分布的计量资料使用中位数(四分位数间距) [$M(Q_1, Q_3)$] 表示, 组间比较采用 Mann-Whitney U 检验。计数资料以例数(百分率)表示, 组间比较采用 χ^2 检验。采用多因素 logistic 回归分析患者住院期间发生 MACE 的影响因素, 排除混杂因素得出独立危险因素。通过 Delong 检验比较各炎症因子和联合炎症指标的受试者工作特征 (receiver operating characteristic, ROC) 曲线下面积, 分析炎症因子对糖尿病感染新型冠状病毒患者住院期间发生 MACE 的预测价值。 $P < 0.05$ 为差异有统计学意义。

2 结 果

2.1 糖尿病组与非糖尿病组患者基线特征比较

1038 例患者中, 排除 94 例, 包括 COVID-19 复阳患者 19 例, 既往使用肾上腺糖皮质激素、免疫抑制剂患者 18 例, 临床数据缺乏 57 例, 最终 944 例纳入数据分析。944 例患者中, 发生 MACE 244 例, 占 25.8%。根据糖尿病患病情况将患者分为糖尿病组 ($n = 189$) 和非糖尿病组 ($n = 755$)。与非糖尿病组比较, 糖尿病组患者住院期间发生 MACE、重型/危重型及既往高血压史比例更高, 差异有统计学意义 ($P < 0.05$; 表 1)。

2.2 MACE 组和非 MACE 组基线特征比较

在感染奥密克戎变异株的糖尿病患者中, 根据患者临床结局将患者分为 MACE 组 ($n = 89$) 和非

MACE组($n=100$)。与非MACE组比较,MACE组患者年龄更大,既往脑梗死病史比例更高,住院天数更短,差异均有统计学意义($P<0.05$;表2)。在血液学指标中,与非MACE组比较,MACE组中空腹

血糖、白细胞(white blood cell,WBC)、PCT、CRP及中性粒细胞/淋巴细胞比值(neutrophil/lymphocyte ratio,NLR)更高,差异均有统计学意义($P<0.05$;表2,图1)。

表1 糖尿病组与非糖尿病组患者一般资料比较

Table 1 Comparison of baseline data between non-DM group and DM group

Item	All patients ($n=944$)	Non-DM group ($n=755$)	DM group ($n=189$)	P value
MACE[$n(\%)$]	244(25.8)	155(20.5)	89(47.1)	<0.001
Severe or critically severe[$n(\%)$]	138(14.6)	83(11.0)	55(29.1)	<0.001
Myocarditis[$n(\%)$]	6(0.6)	4(0.5)	2(1.1)	0.414
History of stroke/TIA[$n(\%)$]	109(11.5)	81(10.7)	28(14.8)	0.116
Hypertension[$n(\%)$]	312(33.1)	218(28.9)	94(49.7)	<0.001
Length of stay[$d, M(Q_1, Q_3)$]	8(5,13)	8(5,13)	6(6,13)	0.810
Invasive ventilation[$n(\%)$]	64(6.8)	47(6.2)	17(9.0)	0.176
ECMO[$n(\%)$]	22(2.3)	16(2.1)	6(3.2)	0.390

DM: diabetes mellitus; MACE: major adverse cardiovascular events; TIA: transitory ischaemic attack; ECMO: extracorporeal membrane oxygenation.

表2 MACE组和非MACE组患者基线特征比较

Table 2 Comparison of baseline data between non-MACE group and MACE group

Item	MACE group ($n=89$)	Non-MACE group ($n=100$)	P value
Age[years, $M(Q_1, Q_3)$]	79.00(70.00,83.00)	73.00(68.00,78.00)	0.002
Male[$n(\%)$]	58(65.2)	54(54.0)	0.119
BMI(kg/m^2 , $\bar{x}\pm s$)	24.21±3.12	23.82±3.24	0.401
CKD[$n(\%)$]	15(16.9)	8(8.0)	0.063
CAD[$n(\%)$]	16(18.0)	24(24.0)	0.312
Hypertension[$n(\%)$]	51(57.3)	43(43.0)	0.050
Cancer[$n(\%)$]	4(4.5)	11(11.0)	0.099
History of stroke/TIA[$n(\%)$]	28(31.5)	18(18.0)	0.031
Fasting blood glucose[$\text{mmol}/\text{L}, M(Q_1, Q_3)$]	5.25(4.44,6.36)	4.82(4.19,5.68)	0.005
TC(mmol/L , $\bar{x}\pm s$)	4.45±0.95	4.41±0.99	0.768
TG($\text{mmol}/\text{L}, M(Q_1, Q_3)$)	1.32(0.92,2.26)	1.40(0.97,2.16)	0.467
HDL-C($\text{mmol}/\text{L}, M(Q_1, Q_3)$)	0.93(0.84,1.12)	0.97(0.77,1.15)	0.808
LDL-C($\text{mmol}/\text{L}, \bar{x}\pm s$)	2.66±0.77	2.65±0.83	0.953
WBC[$\times 10^9/\text{L}, M(Q_1, Q_3)$]	8.66(6.92,11.24)	6.99(5.74,9.13)	0.001
PCT($\text{ng}/\text{ml}, M(Q_1, Q_3)$)	5.38(4.40,11.43)	3.17(1.99,5.53)	<0.001
CRP($\text{mg}/\text{L}, M(Q_1, Q_3)$)	52.80(45.40,86.50)	37.15(27.70,45.53)	<0.001
NLR[$M(Q_1, Q_3)$]	5.98(4.79,11.05)	3.64(2.62,5.43)	<0.001
Length of stay[$d, M(Q_1, Q_3)$]	9.00(5.00,11.00)	10.00(6.00,13.00)	0.020

MACE: major adverse cardiovascular events; BMI: body mass index; CKD: chronic kidney disease; CAD: coronary artery disease; TIA: transitory ischaemic attack; TC: total cholesterol; TG: triglyceride; HDL-C: high-density lipoprotein cholesterol; LDL-C: low-density lipoprotein cholesterol; WBC: white blood cell; PCT: procalcitonin; CRP: C-reactive protein; NLR: neutrophil/lymphocyte ratio.

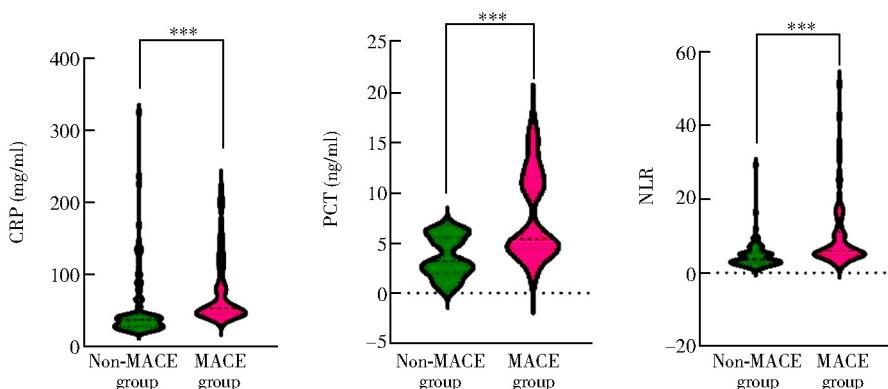


图1 非MACE组和MACE组炎症指标比较

Figure 1 Comparison of inflammatory indicators between non-MACE group and MACE group

MACE: major adverse cardiovascular events; CRP: C-reactive protein; PCT: procalcitonin; NLR: neutrophil/lymphocyte ratio.

Compared with non-MACE group, *** $P<0.001$.

2.3 logistic 回归分析发生 MACE 的影响因素

单因素 logistic 回归分析结果显示,年龄、既往脑梗死病史、空腹血糖、PCT、WBC、CRP 及 NLR 是住院期间发生 MACE 影响因素,差异有统计学意义($P < 0.05$;表 3)。将有意义的指标纳入多因素 logistic 回归分析,采用逐步向前法排除混杂因素后,结果显示年龄($OR = 1.062, 95\% CI 1.009 \sim 1.118; P = 0.021$)、PCT($OR = 1.614, 95\% CI 1.340 \sim 1.943; P < 0.001$)、CRP($OR = 1.008, 95\% CI 1.000 \sim 1.016; P = 0.038$)及 NLR($OR = 1.261, 95\% CI 1.103 \sim 1.441; P = 0.001$)是感染奥密克戎变异株的糖尿病住院患者发生 MACE 的独立危险因素。

表 3 单因素 logistic 回归分析糖尿病患者发生 MACE 的影响因素

Table 3 Univariate logistic regression analysis of risk factors of MACE in patients with diabetes mellitus

Factor	OR (95%CI)	P value
Age	1.058(1.019~1.099)	0.004
Male	1.594(0.886~2.867)	0.120
BMI	1.040(0.950~1.138)	0.400
Hypertension	1.779(0.999~3.169)	0.050
CKD	2.331(0.937~5.797)	0.069
CAD	0.694(0.341~1.411)	0.313
Cancer	0.381(0.117~1.242)	0.109
History of stroke/TIA	2.091(1.061~4.122)	0.033
Fasting blood sugar	1.397(1.132~1.723)	0.002
TC	1.046(0.777~1.407)	0.766
TG	1.084(0.909~1.293)	0.370
HDL-C	1.209(0.414~3.535)	0.728
LDL-C	1.011(0.707~1.445)	0.952
WBC	1.120(1.029~1.219)	0.009
PCT	1.555(1.339~1.807)	<0.001
CRP	1.010(1.003~1.018)	0.004
NLR	1.244(1.124~1.375)	<0.001
Length of stay	0.962(0.922~1.004)	0.075

MACE: major adverse cardiovascular events; BMI: body mass index; CKD: chronic kidney disease; CAD: coronary artery disease; TIA: transitory ischaemic attack; TC: total cholesterol; TG: triglyceride; HDL-C: high-density lipoprotein cholesterol; LDL-C: low-density lipoprotein cholesterol; WBC: white blood cell; PCT: procalcitonin; CRP: C-reactive protein; NLR: neutrophil/lymphocyte ratio.

2.4 炎症指标对发生 MACE 的预测价值

炎症指标 PCT、CRP 及 NLR 的 ROC 曲线分析结果显示,三者均具有较好的预测价值,且经 DeLong 检验,三者曲线下面积比较,差异无统计学意义($P > 0.05$)。PCT 联合 CRP、NLR 曲线下面积经 DeLong 检验显示联合炎症指标曲线下面积比 CRP ($Z = 2.216, P = 0.027$)、PCT ($Z = 4.193, P < 0.0001$) 及 NLR ($Z = 3.443, P = 0.0006$) 更大,差异有统计学意义,表明 PCT 联合 CRP、NLR 相比单一炎症指标对于住院期间发生 MACE 具有较好的预测价值(图 2)。此外,PCT 联合 CRP、NLR 也具有更好的特异度,但是灵敏度相对较低(表 4)。

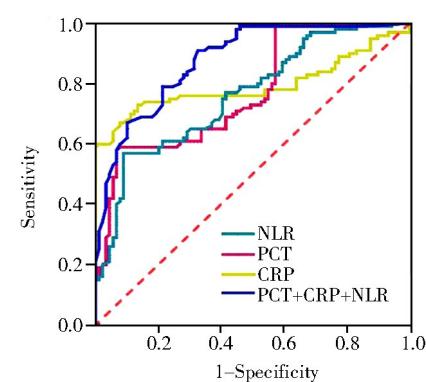


图 2 炎症指标对患者住院期间发生 MACE 的 ROC 预测曲线

Figure 2 ROC prediction curve of inflammatory indicators for MACE during hospitalization.

MACE: major adverse cardiovascular events; ROC: receiver operating characteristic; PCT: procalcitonin; CRP: C-reactive protein; NLR: neutrophil/lymphocyte ratio.

表 4 炎症指标对糖尿病患者住院期间发生 MACE 的预测价值

Table 4 Predictive value of inflammatory indicators on MACE of diabetic patients during hospitalization

Factor	AUC	95%CI	Cut-off value	Sensitivity (%)	Specificity (%)
CRP	0.794	0.725~0.862	44.10	86.5	73.0
PCT	0.773	0.707~0.839	3.35	93.3	59.0
NLR	0.760	0.693~0.827	4.02	91.0	57.0
PCT+CRP+NLR	0.878	0.831~0.926	0.51	68.0	91.0

MACE: major adverse cardiovascular events; CRP: C-reactive protein; PCT: procalcitonin; NLR: neutrophil/lymphocyte ratio.

3 讨论

目前,新型冠状病毒奥密克戎变异株仍在全球流行,其主要症状是上呼吸道感染。与其他 SARS-CoV-2 毒株相比,奥密克戎变异株尽管致病力减弱,但传染性更强,致使全球感染人数迅速增加^[1],且有部分患者会累及肺而表现为肺炎甚至出现不良结局。

老年患者是受奥密克戎变异株感染最严重的群体,其伴随的心血管并发症可加重患者病情,增加死亡风险^[2,7]。本研究中,MACE 发生率为 25.8%,与 Tessitore 等^[10]研究报道的结果相近,而在合并糖尿病的老年患者中 MACE 发生率为 47.1%,远高于一般人群。既往研究表明,感染奥密克戎变异株后引起心血管损伤或 MACE 的可能机制,包括血管紧张素转换酶 2 (angiotensin converting enzyme 2, ACE2) 受体激活引起的细胞损伤、内皮细胞损伤、免疫介导的细胞因子风暴或应激性心肌病、氧供需不匹配、机体凝血功能失调等^[11,12]。这可能是由于 ACE2 在糖尿病患者肾脏、肝脏、心脏和胰腺中的表达水平明显高于健康人,导致这些组织更易遭受 SARS-CoV-2

的攻击^[13]。因此,糖尿病患者感染奥密克戎变异株后可能更容易进展为多器官功能损伤。而对于此类群体住院期间发生MACE的研究尚不明确。目前的研究表明炎症因子等敏感指标在动脉粥样硬化斑块的发生、发展和破裂中发挥重要作用,与MACE的发生密切相关^[14,15]。因此,迫切需要找到合适的指标来帮助识别MACE易感人群,及时提供有效的治疗,合理分配医疗资源以降低死亡率。

最近研究在感染奥密克戎变异株患者的心肌活检中发现炎症因子存在^[16],提示奥密克戎变异株可能通过炎症介导的多种复杂机制对心血管系统产生不良影响。目前关于炎症因子与患者住院期间发生MACE的研究尚不一致。Xu等^[17]研究发现,PCT和CRP与患者生存预后直接相关,并且在COVID-19的死亡患者中明显增加,而在关于NLR的研究中并没有得出类似结果。而Qiu等^[18]发现NLR对于患者生存预后具有较好的预测价值。本研究结果与Qiu等研究结果一致,NLR与患者预后明显相关。这可能有以下原因:(1)Xu等研究样本量相对较小($n=76$),本研究样本量($n=944$)与Qiu等研究样本量($n=2347$)相对较大,可能更具有代表性;(2)Xu等研究的临床终点结局仅仅是死亡,而本研究的临床终点结局为MACE,其中不仅包含死亡,且其他终点事件所占比例较大。

有研究表明感染奥密克戎变异株后患者疾病的发生、发展及重症化与体内淋巴细胞亚群紊乱、细胞因子风暴产生等免疫失衡有关,其中细胞免疫发挥了至关重要的作用^[19]。既往也有研究发现,NLR反映了体内中性粒细胞和淋巴细胞免疫反应之间的平衡,中性粒细胞的增加可以促进血管壁的氧化损伤,而淋巴细胞的减少也可以加剧氧化和炎症损伤,这两者都与MACE有关^[14,15]。此外,PCT和CRP是炎症反应的典型指标,通过其对血管内皮功能障碍的影响参与MACE的发生^[20,21]。本研究不仅发现PCT、CRP及NLR是老年糖尿病患者住院期间发生MACE的独立危险因素,且PCT联合CRP、NLR具有更好的预测价值,具有更低的误诊率。

总之,本研究结果显示,与非糖尿病患者相比,糖尿病患者住院期间发生MACE的风险更高,且血清学检验指标中PCT、CRP及NLR是感染奥密克戎变异株的老年糖尿病患者住院期间发生MACE的独立危险因素,并且PCT联合CRP、NLR相比单一炎症指标(PCT、CRP及NLR)对患者住院期间发生MACE具有更好的预测价值。

本研究为单中心研究,且因条件所限未能定期复查患者住院期间炎症因子。未来我们将开展多中心研究并动态观察炎症因子的变化,以进一步验证PCT、CRP及NLR和联合炎症指标的预测价值,为改善老年糖尿病患者感染奥密克戎变异株的结局提供

理论依据。此外,一些客观原因导致在不同的病程中取同一样本进行比较,这也是本研究的局限性。

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