

· 基础研究 ·

间断注射骨钙素可预防高脂饮食诱导小鼠非酒精性脂肪性肝病的发生

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【摘要】目的 探讨外源性骨钙素干预是否可预防高脂饮食诱导的野生型小鼠非酒精性脂肪性肝病 (NAFLD) 的发生。**方法** 将5周龄C57BL/6J雄性小鼠随机分为4组: (1) 普通饮食对照组; (2) 高脂饮食对照组; (3) 高脂饮食 + 骨钙素低剂量组; (4) 高脂饮食 + 骨钙素高剂量组。实验期间监测体质量、血糖、进食量等指标; 实验结束后, 检测血清总胆固醇 (TC)、甘油三酯 (TG)、游离脂肪酸 (FFA)、肿瘤坏死因子 α (TNF- α) 等指标, 并行肝组织学检查及肝TC、TG含量测定。HE染色和油红O染色观察肝形态学改变。**结果** (1) 与高脂饮食对照组相比, 两种不同剂量骨钙素干预组的体内脂肪含量, 包括附睾旁脂肪、肾周脂肪、皮下脂肪及脂体比均明显降低 (均 $P < 0.001$); 空腹血糖及葡萄糖耐量较高脂对照组明显改善 ($P < 0.05 \sim 0.001$); 血清TC、TG、FFA、TNF- α 等指标较高脂对照组明显降低 (均 $P < 0.05$); (2) 两种不同剂量骨钙素干预组的肝脂肪沉积明显减少, 肝质量、肝体比、肝TC及TG含量等指标均较高脂饮食对照组明显降低 (均 $P < 0.05$)。**结论** 骨钙素间断注射可有效预防高脂饮食诱导小鼠NAFLD的发生, 改善糖脂代谢, 并可降低血清TNF- α 水平。

【关键词】 脂肪肝; 骨钙素; 肝脂质

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Intermittent injection of osteocalcin prevents high fat diet-induced nonalcoholic fatty liver disease in mice

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【Abstract】Objective To investigate whether exogenous osteocalcin intervention prevents high fat diet-induced nonalcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD) in wild type mice. **Methods** Five-week-old C57BL/6J male mice were randomly divided into 4 groups, that is, normal diet, high fat diet, and high fat diet + osteocalcin 3 or 10ng/(g · d) groups. The body mass, blood glucose, and food intake were monitored during the 24 weeks' experiment. Serum levels of total cholesterol (TC), triglycerides (TG), free fatty acid (FFA), and tumor necrosis factor α (TNF- α) and liver contents of TC and TG were measured at the end of the study. Oil Red O and hematoxylin-eosin staining were performed to observe the morphology of the livers. **Results** Compared with high fat diet group, the groups treated by different doses of osteocalcin had significantly decreased total fat mass (including the fat around epididymides and kidneys as well as subcutaneous fat) and total fat mass/body mass ratio ($P < 0.001$), better fasting blood glucose and glucose tolerance ($P < 0.05 \sim 0.001$), and obviously reduced serum levels of TC, TG, FFA and TNF- α ($P < 0.05$). Osteocalcin treatment prevented high fat diet-induced liver steatosis and resulted in remarkably decreased liver mass, ratio of liver mass to body mass as well as liver TC and TG levels ($P < 0.05$). **Conclusion** Intermittent injection of osteocalcin significantly prevents high fat diet-induced NAFLD, improves glucose-lipids metabolism and reduces serum TNF- α level.

【Key words】 fatty liver; osteocalcin; liver lipid

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近年来,骨的内分泌功能成为国内外学者关注的焦点,其中骨钙素(骨钙蛋白, osteocalcin, OCN)作为成骨细胞分泌的一种调节蛋白,不仅是反映骨转化的重要血清标志物,而且对糖脂及能量代谢有重要影响^[1,2]。我们前期研究^[3,4]发现,2型糖尿病患者血清骨钙素水平较糖耐量正常者明显降低($P < 0.01$);与正常人群相比,代谢综合征及中心性肥胖人群的血清骨钙素水平明显降低($P < 0.01$)。目前,随着人们生活水平的提高,非酒精性脂肪性肝病(nonalcoholic fatty liver disease, NAFLD)患病率在世界范围内快速上升,已经成为西方发达国家最常见的肝疾病,NAFLD与肥胖、糖脂代谢异常等密切相关,是心血管疾病的高风险因素^[5]。NAFLD是肝细胞内脂质,特别是甘油三酯(triglycerides, TG)过度蓄积所致,与血清TG水平呈正相关^[6]。本课题组前期研究^[7]显示,在社区人群中,NAFLD人群的血清骨钙素水平较低,NAFLD的患病率随着血清骨钙素水平的降低而增高。Ferron等^[8]基础研究提示,骨钙素无论持续注射还是间断注射,均可降低小鼠血清TG水平。因此,本研究拟探讨骨钙素间断注射是否可预防高脂饮食诱导的小鼠NAFLD的发生。

1 材料与方法

1.1 动物及骨钙素

选取4周龄体质量介于18~19g的C57BL/6J雄性小鼠(上海斯莱克实验动物有限责任公司),经适应性喂养1周后随机分为以下4组,每组8只:普通饮食对照组(normal diet, ND);高脂饮食对照组(high fat diet + vehicle, HFD + Vehicle);高脂饮食 + 骨钙素低剂量组[high fat diet + OCN 3ng/(g·d), HFD + OCN3];高脂饮食 + 骨钙素高剂量组[high fat diet + OCN 10ng/(g·d), HFD + OCN10]。高脂饲料购自(Research Diet公司),RD Western Diet,货号D12079B,含蛋白质17%,碳水化合物43%,脂肪41%。注射用骨钙素为非羧化骨钙素(美国AnaSpec公司),货号65307-025,0.25mg/支,使用前用DMSO配制成浓度为1.0mg/ml储存液,并用0.9%生理盐水分别稀释成0.3, 1.0ng/μl,每天下午16:00进行腹腔注射。干预24周,实验期间每周1次测体质量及进食量。

1.2 血标本检测

罗氏卓越金锐血糖仪检测空腹血糖(空腹12h),骨钙素干预24周处死小鼠,心脏取血,测定血清生化指标和炎症因子,血清总胆固醇(total cholesterol, TC)、TG、游离脂肪酸(free fatty acid,

FFA)采用酶法应用自动分析仪进行检测(7600-120 Automatic Analyser; Hitachi, Tokyo, Japan);血清肿瘤坏死因子α(tumor necrosis factor α, TNF-α)运用酶联免疫吸附实验(enzyme linked immunosorbent assay, ELISA)检测, TNF-α试剂盒(美国R&D公司)。于实验第16周行腹腔注射葡萄糖耐量实验(intraperitoneal glucose tolerance tests, IPGTT)。

1.3 组织的收集与形态学分析

干预第24周处死小鼠,分离附睾旁、皮下、肾周脂肪及肝,并称重。于肝右上叶分别取10mm × 5mm × 5mm的标本2份,一份用于苏木素-伊红染色(hematoxylin-eosin staining, HE),观察肝病理学特征;另一份用于冰冻切片,油红O(60%异丙醇配制)染色,观察肝细胞内脂滴聚集情况。

1.4 肝脂质提取

取150~160mg的冻存肝组织,分为2份做复孔,在EP管中加入氯仿/甲醇(2:1)混合液用研磨器(SCIENTZ-48高通量组织研磨器)研磨60s,然后分别加入甲醇、氯仿离心,取下清,用氮吹机吹1h,或放入通风橱12h吹干,加入1% Triton-100溶解脂质,应用自动分析仪采用酶法检测TC和TG含量。

1.5 统计学处理

所有结果均采用 $\bar{x} \pm s$ 表示,统计方法采用SPSS16.0 one-way ANOVA进行统计,并使用GraphPad Prism5作图软件作图。 $P < 0.05$ 为差异有统计学意义。

2 结果

本实验中,HFD + Vehicle组中有2只小鼠造模失败而被剔除,最终分析时该组样本量为6只小鼠,其他各组均为8只小鼠。监测进食量的结果显示,OCN组与HFD + Vehicle组相比,进食量差异无统计学意义($P > 0.05$)。

2.1 骨钙素对小鼠体质量、糖脂代谢、及体内脂肪含量的影响

实验第7周起,HFD + Vehicle组体质量较ND组有明显升高($P < 0.01$;图1);HFD + OCN3组、HFD + OCN10组体质量与HFD + Vehicle相比均明显降低($P < 0.01$),上述差异维持至实验结束。两OCN组与ND组的体质量差异无统计学意义($P > 0.05$)。

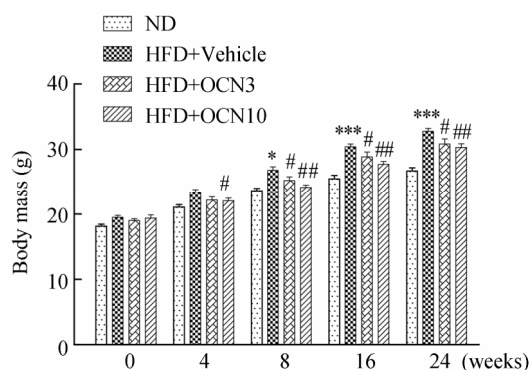


图1 实验周期内4组小鼠体重比较

Figure 1 Comparison of body mass among 4 groups
ND: normal diet; HFD: high fat diet; HFD+OCN3: high fat diet+osteocalcin 3ng/(g · d); HFD+OCN10: high fat diet +osteocalcin 10ng/(g · d). Compared with ND group, * $P < 0.05$, ** $P < 0.01$, *** $P < 0.001$; compared with HFD+Vehicle group, # $P < 0.05$, ## $P < 0.01$, ### $P < 0.001$

骨钙素干预16周后, IPGTT结果显示, 与ND组相比, 除空腹血糖外, 葡萄糖负荷后HFD + Vehicle组各时点血糖值均明显升高 ($P < 0.05$); 与HFD + Vehicle组相比, HFD + OCN3组30, 60, 90min血糖均明显降低 (均 $P < 0.01$); HFD + OCN10组各时点血糖值与HFD + Vehicle组相比均明显降低 (均 $P < 0.001$); HFD + OCN3组15, 30min血糖值明显高于ND组 ($P < 0.05$), 其他各时点差异均无统计学意义 ($P > 0.05$); 但HFD + OCN10组与ND组各时点血糖值差异均无统计学意义 ($P > 0.05$); 除15min时HFD + OCN3组血糖值明显高于HFD + OCN10组外 ($P < 0.05$), 其他各时点两组间均无明显差异 ($P > 0.05$; 图2)。

实验第24周时HFD + Vehicle组的皮下、肾周、附睾旁脂肪及脂体比值与ND组相比, 均明显升高 (均 $P < 0.001$); 两OCN组的上述部位脂肪及脂体比值与HFD + Vehicle组相比均明显降低 (均 $P < 0.001$), 但与ND组和两OCN组之间相比均无差异 ($P > 0.05$; 表1)。干预第19周, 与ND组相比, HFD + Vehicle组空腹血糖明显升高 ($P < 0.001$); 两OCN组的血糖与HFD + Vehicle组相比明显降低 ($P < 0.01 \sim 0.001$), 且与ND组没有明显差异 ($P > 0.05$), 两OCN组间无明显差异 ($P > 0.05$; 表1)。

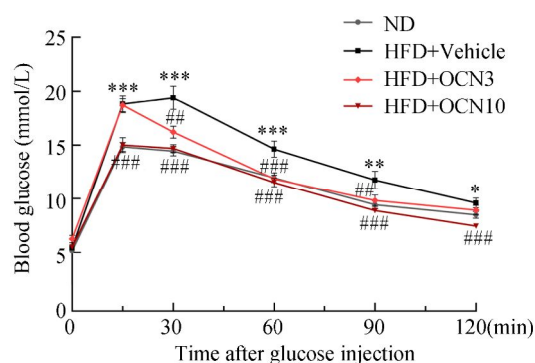


图2 骨钙素干预16周后葡萄糖耐量实验结果

Figure 2 Intraperitoneal glucose tolerance tests after 16 weeks of osteocalcin treatment

ND: normal diet; HFD: high fat diet; HFD+OCN3: high fat diet+osteocalcin 3ng/(g · d); HFD+OCN10ng/(g · d): high fat diet +osteocalcin 10. Compared with ND group, * $P < 0.05$, ** $P < 0.01$, *** $P < 0.001$; compared with HFD+Vehicle group, # $P < 0.05$, ## $P < 0.01$, ### $P < 0.001$

干预24周时, 与ND组相比, HFD + Vehicle组的TC、FFA水平明显升高 ($P < 0.01 \sim 0.001$), TG虽高于ND组, 但差异无统计学意义 ($P = 0.086$); 两OCN组血清TC、TG、FFA与HFD + Vehicle组相比, 均明显降低 (均 $P < 0.05$); 两OCN组血清TC均明显高于ND组 (均 $P < 0.001$), TG与ND组无明显差异 ($P > 0.05$), FFA水平均低于ND组, 其中HFD + OCN10组明显低于ND组 ($P < 0.05$)。而血清TC、TG、FFA水平在两OCN组间均无明显差异 (均 $P > 0.05$)。血清TNF- α 检测结果显示, 与ND组相比HFD + Vehicle组明显升高 ($P < 0.01$); 两OCN组与HFD + Vehicle组相比明显降低 (均 $P < 0.01$); 两OCN组间无明显差异 ($P > 0.05$; 表2)。

2.2 骨钙素对小鼠肝重量和肝脂肪沉积的影响

HFD + Vehicle组肝质量明显高于ND组 ($P < 0.001$); 两OCN组小鼠肝质量明显低于HFD + Vehicle组 (均 $P < 0.001$); 两OCN组与ND组均无明显差异 ($P > 0.05$), 两OCN组间亦未见明显差异 ($P > 0.05$)。此外, HFD + Vehicle组的肝体比值高于ND组, 但差异无统计学意义 ($P > 0.05$); 但两OCN组明显低于HFD + Vehicle组 (均 $P < 0.01$); 更值得注意的是, 两OCN组肝体比值均明显低于ND组, 差异

表1 4组小鼠体内脂肪含量及空腹血糖比较
Table 1 Comparison of fat mass and FBG among four groups

($\bar{x} \pm s$)

Item	ND(n = 8)	HFD + Vehicle(n = 6)	HFD + OCN3(n = 8)	HFD + OCN10(n = 8)
Fat beside epididymis at 24 weeks(g)	0.395 $\pm$ 0.020	1.012 $\pm$ 0.089***	0.485 $\pm$ 0.060###	0.443 $\pm$ 0.046###
Subcutaneous fat at 24 weeks(g)	0.443 $\pm$ 0.026	1.027 $\pm$ 0.127***	0.476 $\pm$ 0.063###	0.539 $\pm$ 0.037###
Fat around kidney at 24 weeks(g)	0.076 $\pm$ 0.011	0.318 $\pm$ 0.046***	0.116 $\pm$ 0.027###	0.138 $\pm$ 0.020###
Total fat mass/body mass at 24 weeks	0.030 $\pm$ 0.001	0.072 $\pm$ 0.006***	0.035 $\pm$ 0.004###	0.037 $\pm$ 0.002###
FBG at 19 weeks(mmol/L)	4.963 $\pm$ 0.191	6.550 $\pm$ 0.496***	4.988 $\pm$ 0.117###	4.738 $\pm$ 0.084###

ND: normal diet; HFD: high fat diet; HFD + OCN3: high fat diet + osteocalcin 3ng/(g · d); HFD + OCN10: high fat diet + osteocalcin 10ng/(g · d); FBG: fasting blood glucose. Compared with ND group, *** $P < 0.001$; compared with HFD + Vehicle group, ### $P < 0.001$

有统计学意义 (均 $P < 0.05$); 两OCN组间无明显差异 ($P > 0.05$; 表3)。

肝脂质提取, 结果显示HFD + Vehicle组的TC含量明显高于ND组 ($P < 0.01$); 两OCN组肝TC含量均明显低于HFD + Vehicle组 (均 $P < 0.05$), 而与ND组和骨钙素干预组间相比未见明显差异 ($P > 0.05$)。HFD + Vehicle组肝TG含量明显高于ND组 ($P < 0.05$); 两OCN组肝TG含量均明显低于HFD + Vehicle组 (均 $P < 0.001$); 且低于ND组, 但差异无统计学意义 ($P > 0.05$), 两OCN组间未见明显差异 ($P > 0.05$; 表3)。

肝HE染色结果显示, HFD + Vehicle组可见明显脂肪沉积, 而ND组及两OCN组未见明显脂肪滴 (图

3A)。同样地, 油红O染色结果显示两OCN组脂肪滴明显减少 (图3B)。

3 讨论

骨钙素是由成骨细胞分泌的蛋白, 最初合成的是相对分子质量为10kD的前体, 翻译后在维生素K和CO₂依赖的羧化酶复合物作用下羧化, 形成谷氨酸残基。成熟骨钙素含49个氨基酸残基, 相对分子质量是5.8kD。在有Ca²⁺存在的情况下, 谷氨酸残基发生构像变化, 促进骨钙素结合于羟基磷灰石和在骨基质中的聚集。大部分骨钙素沉积在骨基质, 未羧化及羧化不全的骨钙素与羟基磷灰石的亲和力较差, 主要进入血液循环参与调节能量、糖脂代谢^[9]。

表2 4组小鼠血清指标比较
Table 2 Comparison of serum indices among four groups ($\bar{x} \pm s$)

Item	ND group(n = 8)	HFD + Vehicle group(n = 6)	HFD + OCN3 group(n = 8)	HFD + OCN10 group(n = 8)
TC(mmol/L)	1.778 ± 0.067	3.067 ± 0.105***	2.427 ± 0.149###	2.540 ± 0.148###
TG(mmol/L)	0.504 ± 0.69	0.682 ± 0.114	0.469 ± 0.073 [#]	0.398 ± 0.026 ^{##}
FFA(μEq/L)	0.500 ± 31.522	1011.500 ± 138.040**	608.125 ± 21.502###	509.750 ± 35.321###
TNF-α(pg/ml)	4.438 ± 1.074	11.316 ± 2.812**	6.024 ± 0.512 ^{##}	5.539 ± 0.416 ^{##}

ND: normal diet; HFD: high fat diet; HFD + OCN3: high fat diet + osteocalcin 3ng/(g · d); HFD + OCN10: high fat diet + osteocalcin 10ng/(g · d); TC: total cholesterol; TG: triglycerides; FFA: free fatty acid; TNF-α: tumor necrosis factor α. Compared with ND group, * $P < 0.05$, ** $P < 0.01$, *** $P < 0.001$; compared with HFD + Vehicle group, [#] $P < 0.05$, ^{##} $P < 0.01$, ^{###} $P < 0.001$

表3 4组小鼠肝指标比较
Table 3 Comparison of liver indices among four groups ($\bar{x} \pm s$)

Item	ND group(n = 8)	HFD + Vehicle group(n = 6)	HFD + OCN3 group(n = 8)	HFD + OCN10 group(n = 8)
Liver mass(g)	1.090 ± 0.026	1.288 ± 0.036***	1.108 ± 0.025###	1.094 ± 0.023###
Liver mass/body mass	0.039 ± 0.001	0.039 ± 0.001	0.036 ± 0.001 ^{##}	0.036 ± 0.001 ^{##}
TC(mg/g)	1.430 ± 0.085	2.070 ± 0.180**	1.620 ± 0.136 [#]	1.630 ± 0.157 [#]
TG(mg/g)	7.300 ± 1.176	10.610 ± 2.450*	3.822 ± 0.610###	3.660 ± 0.527###

ND: normal diet; HFD: high fat diet; HFD + OCN3: high fat diet + osteocalcin 3ng/(g · d); HFD + OCN10: high fat diet + osteocalcin 10ng/(g · d); TC: total cholesterol; TG: triglycerides; FFA: free fatty acid; TNF-α: tumor necrosis factor α. Compared with ND group, * $P < 0.05$, ** $P < 0.01$, *** $P < 0.001$; compared with HFD + Vehicle group, [#] $P < 0.05$, ^{##} $P < 0.01$, ^{###} $P < 0.001$

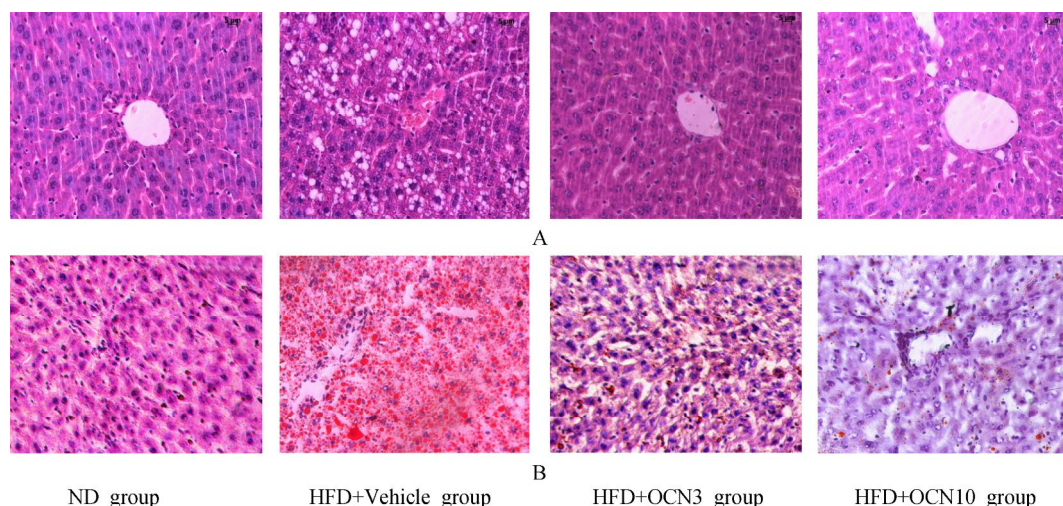


图3 肝HE染色和油红O染色

Figure 3 Liver hematoxylin-eosin staining (A) and oil red O staining (B × 100)

ND: normal diet; HFD: high fat diet; HFD+OCN3: high fat diet+osteocalcin 3ng/(g · d); HFD+OCN10: high fat diet +osteocalcin 10ng/(g · d)

NAFLD是脂肪异位沉积的重要表现,属代谢应激性肝损伤。脂肪组织释放FFA增加,可使肝细胞内TG蓄积,是形成NAFLD的重要原因^[10,11],NAFLD的主要病理表现为弥漫性肝细胞大泡性脂肪变。本研究以高脂饮食成功诱导了NAFLD的小鼠模型,经过24周的高脂喂养,高脂对照组小鼠的体脂含量、肝质量、肝体比等显著增加,肝HE染色及油红O染色均可见肝细胞内脂滴明显增加,并且经定量检测证实肝脂质含量明显增加。

Ferron等^[2,10]的研究显示,3, 10ng/h骨钙素注射可降低普通饮食喂养的野生型小鼠体内脂肪含量及血清TG水平,并呈剂量依赖性。无论采用骨钙素连续注射与间断注射均可见到类似结果,临床研究也已证实,NAFLD与机体糖脂代谢紊乱密切相关^[12,13]。因此,在本研究中,我们分别采用3, 10ng/(g·d)两种骨钙素剂量对高脂喂养的小鼠进行干预,观察骨钙素是否可以有效预防NAFLD的产生。经过24周的外源骨钙素干预后,见到上述2个剂量等级的骨钙素干预均可有效降低高脂喂养小鼠的肝质量,与高脂对照组的小鼠相比,降低幅度达14.03%~15.08%。病理切片证实,两OCN组的肝细胞内脂滴明显减少,且肝TC、TG含量均明显减少。提示无论采用低剂量还是高剂量骨钙素干预,均可有效预防高脂饮食诱导的NAFLD的产生。

近年来,越来越多的证据提示骨钙素与糖脂代谢有密切关系^[14]。Lee等^[15]研究了骨钙素活性增加的小鼠模型——Esp基因缺失小鼠,显示这种小鼠的血清TG、FFA水平均明显低于WT小鼠($P < 0.05$);而Osteocalcin基因缺失小鼠体内脂肪和血清TG均明显增加($P < 0.05$)。Zhou等^[16]发现OCN组小鼠糖脂代谢指标明显改善。本研究中见到类似结果,并且发现小鼠体质量也明显减轻。

胰岛素抵抗是NAFLD的主要病理生理机制^[17]。Ferron等^[10]的研究发现无论是给小鼠骨钙素间断注射还是连续注射均可改善高脂喂养小鼠的胰岛素抵抗;细胞研究提示骨钙素可通过PI3K/Akt途径增加胰岛素敏感性,并可见肝内质网应激明显减轻^[18]。此外,炎症反应也参与NAFLD的发病^[18,19]。TNF- α 是参与肝细胞炎症、氧化应激、细胞凋亡的重要炎症因子,是由激活的单核-巨噬细胞产生的一种多肽,相对分子质量为17kDa,在NAFLD发生发展过程中具有重要作用^[20]。本研究发现,骨钙素干预后在改善肝脂质积聚的同时,血清TNF- α 浓度亦明显下降。

本研究结果表明,间断注射骨钙素不仅可以

改善高脂饮食诱导小鼠的糖脂代谢,并且可以有效预防NAFLD形成。然而,我们尚未进行相关机制的研究,这是本研究存在的局限性。今后尚需进一步开展骨钙素预防NAFLD的机制探讨,为临床NAFLD及相关代谢性疾病的防治提供新的证据及思路。

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