

· 综述 ·

小核糖核酸21与肺癌的研究进展

张丽丽, 鲍永霞*, 苏冬菊, 耿莹

(哈尔滨医科大学附属第二医院呼吸科, 哈尔滨 150086)

【摘要】 近年通过基因芯片技术研究小核糖核酸(miRNA)与疾病的关系受到越来越多的关注, miRNA-21 为 miRNA 家族中的一员, 具有多种生物学功能, 已被证实参与多种疾病的发生和发展。研究表明, miRNA-21 可作为肺癌进展的生物标志物, 为肺癌进展的早期干预提供一种可能, 本文综述了 miRNA-21 与肺癌的研究进展。

【关键词】 核糖核酸; 肺癌; 基因; 诊断

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Research progress in miRNA-21 and its association with lung cancer

ZHANG Li-Li, BAO Yong-Xia*, SU Dong-Ju, GENG Ying

(Department of Respiratory Diseases, the Second Hospital of Harbin Medical University, Harbin 150086, China)

【Abstract】 In recent years, more and more attention has been drawn to the research on the association of micro ribonucleic acid (miRNA) with diseases using gene-chip technology. miRNA-21, a member of the miRNA family, has many biological functions and has been proven to be associated with the occurrence and development of a good number of diseases. Studies have suggested that miRNA-21 can be used as a biomarker for the progression of lung cancer, providing a possibility for early intervention in the progression of lung cancer. This paper reviewed the recent progress made in the research on miRNA-21 and lung cancer.

【Key words】 ribonucleic acid; lung cancer; gene; diagnosis

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Corresponding author: BAO Yong-Xia, E-mail: baoyongxia@126.com.

小核糖核酸(micro ribonucleic acid, miRNA)是一类重要的非编码小 RNA, 其成熟形式约含 19~22 个核苷酸, miRNA-21 是其中一员。近年研究表明 miRNA-21 具有多种生物学功能, 它能作用于不同的靶基因, 调节各系统疾病的发生和发展, 在多种疾病的诊断和治疗中发挥重要作用, 尤其对恶性肿瘤的治疗具有独特意义。miRNA-21 由 Lagos-Quintana 在 2001 年首次发现^[1], 位于染色体 17q23.2, 与编码泡膜蛋白-1(vacuole membrane protein-1, VMP-1)、人乳头瘤病毒 16 型以及 RNA U6 的基因重叠^[2], 其由 RNA 聚合酶 II 转录生成。miRNA-21 与恶性肿瘤的发生和发展密切相关, 大多数靶点已被确定为肿瘤抑制因子^[3]。

1 miRNA-21 作为肺癌诊断和预后的生物标志物

miRNA-21 水平上调与肺癌的诊断和预后相关,

在肺癌的进展中可能起重要作用^[4]。Dong 等^[5]通过研究发现 miRNA-21 可作为非小细胞肺癌(non-small cell lung carcinoma, NSCLC)脑转移的生物标志物。研究表明, 血清 miRNA-21 的水平与 NSCLC 患者 TNM 分期及淋巴结转移有关^[6]。Wu 等^[7]通过研究发现晚期肺癌患者静脉滴注康莱特注射液 200 ml 共 21 d 后, 血清 miRNA-21 的水平明显低于治疗前 [$(2.45 \pm 0.15) \text{ vs } (3.87 \pm 0.54)$], 差异有统计学意义 ($P < 0.05$), 表明康莱特注射液显著降低了晚期肺癌患者血清 miRNA-21 的水平, 为评估晚期肺癌患者的治疗效果提供客观依据。miRNA-21 联合 miRNA-20a、miRNA-223 和 miRNA-145 可区分 NSCLC 患者和健康者, 已成为早期诊断 NSCLC 的潜在工具^[8]。Gallach 等^[9]通过 Kaplan-Meier 生存曲线和 Cox 回归分析表明 miRNA-21 和 miRNA-188 高水平肺癌患者的预后更差, 两者可作为无复发生存率 ($OR = 0.485, 95\% CI 0.313 \sim 0.753; P = 0.001$)

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通信作者: 鲍永霞, E-mail: baoyongxia@126.com

和总生存期($OR = 0.389, 95\% CI 0.237 \sim 0.638; P < 0.001$)的独立预后因素,可能为NSCLC患者早期预后的生物标志物和治疗的潜在靶点。

2 miRNA-21作为肺癌治疗的靶点

研究表明,NSCLC患者血清miRNA-21的作用靶点为人第10号染色体缺失的磷酸酶和张力蛋白同源物基因(phosphatase tension homologue, PTEN)^[10]、程序性细胞死亡因子4(programmed cell death 4, PDCD4)^[11]、缺氧诱导因子-1 α (hypoxia inducible factor-1 α , HIF-1 α)和人MutS同源蛋白2(human MutS homologous protein 2, hMSH 2)基因^[11]。研究表明miRNA-21可抑制PTEN、重组人原肌球蛋白-1和PDCD4等多种抑癌基因^[12],因此抑制miRNA-21可对NSCLC患者发挥治疗作用。研究表明清除活性氧(reactive oxygen species, ROS)可抑制人肺癌细胞的miRNA-21水平上调,并抑制脂多糖诱导的肺癌细胞生长^[13]。人TOLL样受体4(toll like receptor-4, TLR-4)在人肺癌细胞中激活也可提高细胞的ROS水平,TLR-4表达与新分离的人肺癌细胞miRNA-21水平及ROS密切相关。这些研究表明TLR-4/ROS/miRNA-21通路在脂多糖诱导的原发性肺癌生长中起重要作用。此研究将肿瘤免疫中的固有信号、氧化应激和miRNA-21联系起来,为肺癌新疗法的开发提供了线索^[13]。最近一项小鼠肺癌模型的临床前研究表明,相比未治疗组,抗miRNA-21处理后的小鼠肿瘤消退或无肿瘤生长,且存活时间延长^[14]。国外一项关于肺癌细胞株的研究使用了一种基于类寡核苷酸衍生物的抗miRNA-21物质来降低miRNA-21水平,此物质通过凋亡信号抑制A549细胞的生长,从而促进其死亡,并通过抑制还原型烟酰胺腺嘌呤二核苷酸磷酸(nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide phosphate, NADPH)氧化酶而抑制人肺癌细胞的转移^[15]。因此,抗miRNA-21具有潜在的治疗价值,可能在肺癌的靶向治疗中发挥重要作用。

3 miRNA-21参与形成耐药

miRNA-21的高水平与肺癌细胞耐药有关^[16]。在放疗敏感性方面,抑制磷脂酰肌醇-3-激酶/蛋白激酶B(phosphatidylinositol-3-kinases/protein kinase B, PI3K/PKB)信号通路,可抑制miRNA-21致敏的A549细胞的放疗敏感性^[17]。miRNA-21已被用作预测顺铂治疗反应的生物标志物^[18]。NSCLC组织中miRNA-21高水平患者,药物应答较差,总生

存期短,miRNA-21的转录沉默可减少吉非替尼耐药的PC9肺癌细胞的体积,而miRNA-21的转录可增强磷酸化蛋白激酶B抗体的体外磷酸化和细胞活力作用^[19]。进一步表明,肺癌组织中miRNA-21水平与吉非替尼治疗反应负相关^[20]。Li等^[21]研究表明了miRNA-21高水平与NSCLC患者表皮生长因子受体酪氨酸激酶抑制剂(epidermal growth factor receptor-tyrosine kinase inhibitor, EGFR-TKI)获得性耐药的关系,血浆miRNA谱(miRNA-21, miRNA-27a和miRNA-218)与表皮生长因子受体(epidermal growth factor receptor, EGFR)突变的晚期NSCLC患者对EGFR-TKI的初级耐药有关^[22]。miRNA-21还可通过靶向作用于PTEN基因的3'-非翻译区(3'-untranslated region, 3'-UTR)而诱导NSCLC细胞对顺铂的耐药性^[23]。国内研究表明,miRNA-21在NSCLC细胞多药耐药中发挥重要作用,可能与促进细胞凋亡、调控肿瘤耐药相关蛋白的表达有关^[24]。Jiang等^[11]通过研究表明,miRNA-21可抑制PDCD4基因的表达,激活PI3K/AKT/mTOR信号通路,从而影响NSCLC细胞的放疗敏感性。

4 结语

尽管肺癌的治疗取得了进展,但肺癌患者的预后仍然很差,大多数肺癌患者死于肺部感染、呼吸衰竭、脑转移等,严重影响患者的生存时间和生活质量。探索更好的预后指标预测肺癌患者远处转移的发生,改善肺癌患者的临床治疗效果至关重要。尽管miRNA-21水平与肺癌进展密切相关,可作为治疗肺癌治疗靶点并参与形成耐药,但miRNA-21基因干预治疗肺癌的技术及机制仍有待进一步研究。

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