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临床研究·论著

强直性脊柱炎患者外周血不同类型单核细胞极化与病情严重程度的关系*

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摘要: 目的 探讨强直性脊柱炎(AS)患者外周血不同类型单核细胞极化与病情严重程度的关系。**方法** 选取2020年1月—2021年12月广州中医药大学附属深圳平乐骨伤科医院收治的AS患者71例(AS组), 以及年龄、性别基本匹配的体检志愿者80例作为对照组。采用流式细胞术检测CD36⁺、CD206⁺、CD68⁺, 分析不同类型单核细胞与脊柱结构破坏指数的相关性, 并对比患者治疗前后不同类型单核细胞的变化。**结果** AS组C反应蛋白(CRP)、血沉(ESR)、免疫球蛋白G(IgG)、免疫球蛋白M(IgM)、免疫球蛋白A(IgA)、肿瘤坏死因子-α(TNF-α)、白细胞介素-6(IL-6)水平高于对照组($P < 0.05$)。AS组外周血CD36⁺、CD206⁺细胞比例低于对照组($P < 0.05$), CD68⁺细胞比例高于对照组($P < 0.05$)。CD36⁺、CD206⁺与强直性脊柱炎疾病活动指数(BASDAI)评分、Bath强直性脊柱炎功能指数(BASFI)评分均呈负相关($P < 0.05$), CD68⁺与BASDAI评分、BASFI评分均呈正相关($P < 0.05$)。AS患者治疗后CRP、ESR、IgG、IgM、IgA、TNF-α、IL-6水平较治疗前均降低($P < 0.05$)。AS患者治疗后CD36⁺、CD206⁺细胞比例较治疗前升高, CD68⁺细胞比例及BASDAI评分、BASFI评分较治疗前降低。**结论** AS患者外周血CD36⁺、CD206⁺细胞比例降低、CD68⁺细胞比例升高与疾病严重程度有一定的关系。

关键词: 强直性脊柱炎; 单核细胞; 脊柱结构破坏指数; 炎症指标

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The relationship between the polarization of monocytes in peripheral blood and the disease severity of AS patients*

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Abstract: **Objective** To investigate the relationship between different types of monocyte polarization in peripheral blood and the disease severity of patients with ankylosing spondylitis (AS). **Methods** From January 2020 to December 2021, a total of 71 AS patients (AS group) and 80 age- and sex-matched volunteers undergoing health checkup (control group) in Shenzhen Pingle Orthopedics and Traumatology Hospital Affiliated to Guangzhou University of Traditional Chinese Medicine were selected. Flow cytometry was performed to detect the proportions of CD36⁺, CD206⁺, and CD68⁺ monocytes, and the correlations between distinct subsets of monocytes and the disease activity indexes were analyzed. The changes of the different types of monocytes before and after treatment were determined. **Results** The levels of CRP, ESR, IgG, IgM, IgA, TNF- α , and IL-6 in the AS group were significantly higher than those in the control group ($P < 0.05$). Compared with the control group, the proportions of CD36⁺ and CD206⁺ cells in peripheral blood were significantly lower but the proportion of CD68⁺ cells in peripheral blood was higher in the AS group ($P < 0.05$). The proportions of CD36⁺ and CD206⁺ cells were negatively correlated with BASDAI scores and BASFI scores ($P < 0.05$), and the proportion of CD68⁺ cells was positively correlated with BASDAI scores and BASFI scores ($P < 0.05$). The levels of CRP, ESR, IgG, IgM, IgA, TNF- α and IL-6 after the treatment were significantly lower than those before the treatment in AS patients ($P < 0.05$). The proportions of CD36⁺ and CD206⁺ cells after the treatment were increased compared with those before the treatment ($P < 0.05$), while the proportion of CD68⁺ cells, BASDAI scores and BASFI scores after the treatment were decreased compared with those before the treatment in AS patients ($P < 0.05$). **Conclusions** The decreased proportions of CD36⁺ and CD206⁺ monocytes and the increased proportion of CD68⁺ monocytes in the peripheral blood of AS patients are related to the severity of the disease.

Keywords: ankylosing spondylitis; monocyte; index reflecting the structural damage in the spine; inflammatory marker

强直性脊柱炎(ankylosing spondylitis, AS)是一种与人类白细胞抗原B27基因(human leukocyte antigen B27, HLA-B27)相关的慢性炎症性疾病^[1-2]。非类固醇抗炎药是该病的传统治疗方法,但具有并发症多的缺点^[3-4]。近年来,肿瘤坏死因子- α (tumor necrosis factor- α , TNF- α)抑制剂这一新型生物制剂引入临床,其可以缓解AS患者临床症状,但是在阻止疾病进程方面疗效欠佳^[5-6]。有研究表明,AS患者较健康人群具有更高的心血管病风险,且AS还是动脉粥样硬化发生的高危因素^[7-8]。

随着对AS认识的不断深入,有研究发现AS的发生可能与炎性介质介导的免疫应答有关^[9-10]。CD36⁺在单核细胞、血小板等细胞表面表达,主要作为一种黏附分子,参与动脉粥样硬化等病理过程^[11-12]。单核巨噬细胞是非特异性免疫应答的主要细胞,可调节炎症反应及免疫过程。有研究发现,单核细胞CD36⁺表达在单核细胞激活和调节炎症因子方面发挥重要作用^[13-14]。炎症因子能够抑制单核细胞中CD36⁺表达,而AS作为一种全身性炎症疾病,其发病可能与单核细胞CD36⁺表达有关。还有研究发现,

维生素D₃通过促进单核细胞分化为巨噬细胞来发挥免疫调节作用,进而影响CD206⁺、CD68⁺单核细胞水平,缓解AS病情^[15-16]。为更进一步探究AS的发病机制,提高临床疗效,本研究将探讨AS患者外周血不同类型单核细胞极化与患者病情严重程度的关系,旨在为临床治疗提供理论依据。

1 资料与方法

1.1 一般资料

采用病例对照研究,选取2020年1月—2021年12月广州中医药大学附属深圳平乐骨伤科医院收治的AS患者71例(AS组),以及年龄、性别基本匹配的体检志愿者80例作为对照组。两组年龄、性别、体质质量指数(body mass index, BMI)、吸烟、饮酒情况比较,差异均无统计学意义($P > 0.05$),具有可比性(见表1)。本研究经医院医学伦理委员会批准(No:院伦[2019]-0017-003),所有患者对本研究知情同意。

1.2 纳入与排除标准

1.2.1 纳入标准 ①AS组患者符合AS诊断标准^[17],

表1 两组一般资料比较

组别	n	年龄/(岁, $\bar{x} \pm s$)	男/女/例	BMI/(kg/m ² , $\bar{x} \pm s$)	吸烟 例(%)	饮酒 例(%)
AS组	71	42.9 ± 9.6	44/27	22.81 ± 1.67	28(39.44)	13(18.31)
对照组	80	41.5 ± 8.8	42/38	23.04 ± 1.72	24(30.00)	21(26.25)
t/ χ^2 值		0.935	1.377	-0.831	1.484	1.359
P值		0.351	0.241	0.407	0.223	0.244

B27检查为阳性,CT、MRI检查显示患者脊柱结构改变(骶髂关节骨质疏松、关节间隙明显变窄,可见关节边缘模糊,可以看到非常明确的骨质的囊性变);②年龄19~65岁;③AS患者均在广州中医药大学附属深圳平乐骨伤科医院接受检查、治疗。

1.2.2 排除标准 ①合并高血压、糖尿病、代谢性疾病、全身感染性疾病;②合并其他类型免疫系统疾病(系统性红斑狼疮、类风湿性关节炎、干燥综合征等);③合并血液系统疾病、血液肿瘤等;④近3个月有糖皮质激素治疗史;⑤合并哮喘、支气管感染等疾病;⑥伴有原发性骨质疏松症等。

1.3 流式细胞术检测CD36⁺、CD68⁺和CD206⁺

所有患者采集血液前禁食8 h,于清晨采集静脉血4 mL,离心取血清备用。于单核巨噬细胞培养体系中分别加入5%来源于AS患者和健康志愿者的血清。两组细胞均放置于37 °C、5%二氧化碳CO₂条件下培养48 h。收集单核巨噬细胞,磷酸缓冲液(phosphate buffer solutions, PBS)清洗后加入100 μL PBS悬浮,加入抗人PE-CD36、抗人PE-CD68和抗人Cy7-CD206的荧光抗体,避光孵育10 min后加入400 μL PBS混匀,细胞液经尼龙膜过滤后用HPC-100流式细胞仪(加拿大Handyem公司)检测,计算CD36⁺、CD68⁺和CD206⁺单核细胞比例。

1.4 治疗方法

口服柳氮磺吡啶(北京市燕京药业有限公司,国药准字H11020475,0.25g),0.75g/次,2次/d;同时给予沙利度胺(常州制药厂有限公司,国药准字H32026130,50 mg)口服治疗,初始剂量为50 mg/d,10 d后调整剂量至100 mg/d,并维持治疗3个月。指导患者自发进行渐进式腰背功能锻炼,锻炼强度以不增加患者疼痛感为主,锻炼2次/d。

1.5 观察指标

所有患者采集血液前禁食8 h,于清晨采集空腹静脉血4 mL。3 000 r/min 离心10 min,取血清采用免

疫比浊法检测免疫球蛋白G(immunoglobulin G, IgG)、免疫球蛋白M(immunoglobulin M, IgM)、免疫球蛋白A(immunoglobulin A, IgA)及C反应蛋白(C-reactive protein, CRP)水平;酶联免疫吸附试验检测TNF-α、白细胞介素-6(Interleukin-6, IL-6)水平。采用Monior-100血沉仪(意大利Vital公司)枸橼酸钠抗凝全血检测血沉(erythrocyte sedimentation rate, ESR)。

记录治疗前后患者强直性脊柱炎疾病活动指数(bath ankylosing spondylitis disease activity index, BASDAI)。BASDAI包含身体困倦程度,颈部、背部、髋部的疼痛程度,除去颈部、背部、髋部外的其他关节的疼痛肿胀程度,早起后腰背部僵硬程度,从起床开始后的腰背部僵硬持续时间等7个问题,每个问题用视觉模拟评分(visual analogue scale, VAS)进行评价,总分0~10分,评分越高表示病情越严重^[18]。

记录治疗前后Bath强直性脊柱炎功能指数(bath ankylosing spondylitis functional index, BASFI)。BASFI主要包含患者是否无须他人帮助或借助工具穿上袜子或紧身衣,无须工具帮助可从地上捡起钢笔或其他物品,无须工具帮助可触及高架上的物品,无须工具和其他人帮助可从无扶手椅子上站立起来,躺在地板上可无须帮助地站立起来等9个问题,每个问题采用VAS评分,总分0~10分,评分越高表示病情越严重^[19]。

1.6 统计学方法

数据分析采用SPSS 21.0统计软件。计量资料以均数±标准差($\bar{x} \pm s$)表示,比较用独立样本t检验或配对t检验;计数资料以构成比或率(%)表示,比较用 χ^2 检验;相关性分析用Pearson法。 $P < 0.05$ 为差异有统计学意义。

2 结果

2.1 两组炎症指标、免疫球蛋白水平比较

AS组与对照组CRP、ESR、IgG、IgM、IgA、TNF-

α 、IL-6 水平比较,经 t 检验,差异均有统计学意义($P < 0.05$),AS组均高于对照组。见表2。

表2 两组炎症指标、免疫球蛋白水平比较 ($\bar{x} \pm s$)

组别	n	CRP/(mg/L)	ESR/(mm/h)	IgG/(g/L)	IgM/(g/L)	IgA/(g/L)	TNF- α /(ng/L)	IL-6/(ng/L)
AS组	71	22.67 ± 5.52	38.61 ± 7.90	13.61 ± 2.90	1.39 ± 0.28	2.89 ± 0.84	8.67 ± 2.94	15.59 ± 4.48
对照组	80	2.84 ± 0.67	9.64 ± 2.30	10.73 ± 2.00	1.22 ± 0.25	1.80 ± 0.58	2.60 ± 0.71	2.92 ± 0.77
t 值		31.881	31.348	7.168	3.942	9.362	17.895	24.895
P值		0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000

2.2 两组不同类型单核细胞比例比较

AS组与对照组外周血CD36⁺、CD206⁺、CD68⁺细胞比例比较,经 t 检验,差异均有统计学意义($P < 0.05$),AS组外周血CD36⁺、CD206⁺细胞比例低于对照组,AS组外周血CD68⁺细胞比例高于对照组。见表3。

表3 两组不同类型单核细胞比例比较 (% , $\bar{x} \pm s$)

组别	n	CD36 ⁺	CD206 ⁺	CD68 ⁺
AS组	71	5.40 ± 1.73	9.66 ± 2.30	62.75 ± 9.84
对照组	80	9.84 ± 2.78	27.51 ± 4.28	43.02 ± 5.51
t 值		-11.608	-31.346	15.420
P值		0.000	0.000	0.000

2.3 不同类型单核细胞与AS患者脊柱结构破坏指数的相关性

AS患者BASDAI评分为(55.74 ± 10.58)分,BASFI评分为(71.62 ± 14.28)分。Pearson相关性分析结果显示,CD36⁺、CD206⁺与BASDAI评分、BASFI评分均呈负相关($P < 0.05$),CD68⁺与BASDAI评分、BASFI评分均呈正相关($P < 0.05$)。见表4。

表4 脊柱结构破坏指数与单核细胞的相关性

指标	CD36 ⁺	CD206 ⁺	CD68 ⁺
BASDAI			
r 值	-0.517	-0.662	0.610
P 值	0.001	0.000	0.000
BASFI			
r 值	-0.499	-0.587	0.557
P 值	0.003	0.000	0.000

2.4 治疗前后炎症指标、免疫球蛋白水平比较

AS患者治疗前后CRP、ESR、IgG、IgM、IgA、TNF- α 、IL-6水平比较,经配对 t 检验,差异均有统计学意义($P < 0.05$),治疗后较治疗前均降低。见表5。

2.5 AS患者治疗前后不同类型单核细胞、脊柱结构破坏指数比较

AS患者治疗前后CD36⁺、CD206⁺、CD68⁺细胞比例及BASDAI评分、BASFI评分比较,经 t 检验,差异均有统计学意义($P < 0.05$);治疗后AS患者CD36⁺、CD206⁺细胞比例较治疗前升高,CD68⁺细胞比例及BASDAI评分、BASFI评分较治疗前降低。见表6。

表5 AS患者治疗前后炎症指标、免疫球蛋白水平比较 ($n=71$, $\bar{x} \pm s$)

时间	CRP/(mg/L)	ESR/(mm/h)	IgG/(g/L)	IgM/(g/L)	IgA/(g/L)	TNF- α /(ng/L)	IL-6/(ng/L)
治疗前	22.67 ± 5.52	38.61 ± 7.90	13.61 ± 2.90	1.39 ± 0.28	2.89 ± 0.84	8.67 ± 2.94	15.59 ± 4.48
治疗后	9.66 ± 2.74	13.20 ± 4.16	11.75 ± 2.73	1.30 ± 0.22	2.13 ± 0.77	5.51 ± 1.67	6.34 ± 2.00
t 值	17.789	23.981	3.935	2.130	5.620	7.875	15.887
P值	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.035	0.000	0.000	0.000

表6 AS患者治疗前后不同类型单核细胞、脊柱结构破坏指数比较 ($n=71$, $\bar{x} \pm s$)

时间	CD36 ⁺ /%	CD206 ⁺ /%	CD68 ⁺ /%	BASDAI评分	BASFI评分
治疗前	5.40 ± 1.73	9.66 ± 2.30	62.75 ± 9.84	55.74 ± 10.58	71.62 ± 14.28
治疗后	7.92 ± 2.44	20.38 ± 4.91	49.33 ± 7.86	33.81 ± 7.71	41.03 ± 8.83
t 值	-7.099	-16.660	8.979	14.115	15.352
P值	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000

3 讨论

AS发病涉及遗传、环境(细菌感染)及个体因素(免疫学异常),其中遗传因素起主导作用^[20]。临幊上一直在找寻可以评估AS疾病活动度的方法,但是尚无“金标准”,仍需进一步深入研究。

炎症反应是AS起病及病情发展过程中的重要特征,AS早期病理特征常伴有关节内滑膜的增生、淋巴样浸润,后期可造成骨骼的侵蚀、软骨的破坏及新骨形成,最终发生骨性强直^[21-22]。本研究结果显示,AS组TNF- α 、IL-6水平均显著高于对照组。分析其原因为IL-6可促进Th17细胞分泌,激活其功能,抑制Treg细胞功能,从而间接促进AS的发生、发展。ESR、CRP常用于评估风湿性疾病活动,其在类风湿性关节炎的发生、发展中发挥重要作用^[23-24]。本研究中AS患者CRP水平升高,与文献报道基本一致^[25]。ESR增加程度与组织损伤程度呈正相关,对于AS具有一定的筛查价值。本研究结果表明,AS患者ESR水平升高,与以往研究一致^[26]。从本研究治疗后反应上看,TNF- α 、IL-6、ESR、CRP水平降低,说明炎症反应控制后也会相应地减轻结构性损伤。也有研究提示,炎症控制后,可能还会促进AS患者病理性新骨形成进程^[27]。炎症在消退的同时可能参与了组织修复、新骨形成的过程。免疫球蛋白是机体重要免疫系统,AS作为一种慢性自身免疫性疾病,在活动期常伴有免疫球蛋白水平异常^[28]。本研究结果表明,AS组IgG、IgM、IgA水平均显著高于对照组;治疗后,AS患者IgG、IgM、IgA水平较治疗前均显著降低,提示上述指标变化可作为AS诊断、病情评估、疗效观察的重要佐证。

众多研究表明,CD36 $^{+}$ 表达参与动脉粥样硬化的形成,且其高表达与糖尿病、心血管疾病及中风有关^[29-30]。然而,CD36 $^{+}$ 表达与AS关系的研究较少,因此,本研究采用流式细胞术分析AS患者CD36 $^{+}$ 的表达。结果显示,AS患者外周血CD36 $^{+}$ 细胞比例显著低于对照组;且CD36 $^{+}$ 与BASDAI评分、BASFI评分均呈负相关,说明CD36 $^{+}$ 的表达在AS患者中下调,下降程度与疾病严重程度相关。众所周知,AS与类风湿关节炎类似,属于全身炎症反应的自身免疫性疾病,CD36 $^{+}$ 细胞比例降低意味着机体炎症反应加剧,对骶髂关节及周围关节组织造成损伤,这对评估AS病情程度具有重要意义。

除探究外周血CD36 $^{+}$ 细胞比例外,本研究还纳入其他2种单核细胞。本研究结果显示,AS组外周血CD206 $^{+}$ 细胞比例显著低于对照组,而CD68 $^{+}$ 细胞比例则高于对照组;前者与BASDAI评分、BASFI评分均呈负相关,后者则与BASDAI评分、BASFI评分均呈正相关。治疗后AS患者CD206 $^{+}$ 、CD68 $^{+}$ 细胞比例得到改善,提示上述指标变化与AS病情严重程度相关,且可以治疗指导。分析AS患者CD206 $^{+}$ 、CD68 $^{+}$ 细胞变化的机制可能是金属蛋白酶通过影响巨噬细胞对凋亡细胞的摄取,影响CD206 $^{+}$ 、CD68 $^{+}$;另一方面,炎症因子可通过调节CD206 $^{+}$ 、CD68 $^{+}$ 启动子来影响其表达。推测单核细胞CD206 $^{+}$ 、CD68 $^{+}$ 的表达可能受机体炎症的影响。治疗方案如果改善了炎症因子水平可能就会改善CD206 $^{+}$ 、CD68 $^{+}$ 水平。

有研究探究了AS患者CD36 $^{+}$ 在炎症环境下的改变,但是没有监测其药物治疗前后的改变^[31]。本研究则在既往研究的基础上又纳入2种单核细胞,一并探究其对AS的评估价值及治疗前后的变化,取得了理想的研究成果,因此考虑检测CD36 $^{+}$ 、CD206 $^{+}$ 、CD68 $^{+}$ 可以作为判断AS患者疾病活动度及疗效的指标。

综上所述,AS患者外周血CD36 $^{+}$ 、CD206 $^{+}$ 细胞比例降低,CD68 $^{+}$ 细胞比例升高,与疾病严重程度有一定的关系。

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