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胸主动脉夹层遗传致病因素的研究进展

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摘要: 胸主动脉夹层(thoracic aortic dissection, TAD)是一类大血管疾病, 其突出特点是起病急、进程快、死亡率高, 目前尚无有效的早期预警和早期诊断技术, 且部分患者首发即为猝死。近年的遗传学研究表明, 导致TAD发生的致病基因涉及TGF- β 信号通路(*TGFBR2*、*TGFBR3*、*SMAD3*等)、细胞外基质(extracellular matrix, ECM)组分(*FBNI*等)、血管平滑肌细胞(vascular smooth muscle cells, VSMCs)及其收缩元件(*ACTA2*、*MYH11*等)等。此外, 研究还发现了其他类型的TAD致病基因, 如*SLC2A10*等, 暗示了TAD致病机制的复杂性。该综述将对TAD及其相关疾病的临床信息、致病基因和致病机制进行简要的阐述, 这有助于人们更好地了解TAD的发生发展, 为TAD的预防、治疗和遗传学研究提供帮助。

关键词: 胸主动脉夹层; TGF- β ; 血管平滑肌细胞; 细胞外基质; 致病基因

中图分类号: Q341; R543.1 **文献标志码:** A

The genetic advances of thoracic aortic dissection

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Abstract: Thoracic aortic dissection (TAD) is a group of large vessel diseases characterized by acute onset, rapid progression, and high mortality rates. However, there is no effective early warning and early diagnosis technology, and some patients suffer from sudden death at the first attack. Recent genetic studies have shown that the TAD causative genes involve TGF- β signaling pathway (*TGFBR2*, *TGFBR3*, *SMAD3*, etc.), extracellular matrix (ECM) components (*FBNI*, etc.), vascular smooth muscle cell (VSMCs) and its contractile apparatus (*ACTA2*, *MYH11*, etc.) and so on. In addition, other pathogenic genes of TAD, such as *SLC2A10*, have been identified, suggesting the complexity of TAD pathogenesis. In this review, we briefly describe the clinical information, causative genes and pathogenesis of TAD and its related diseases, which will help us to better understand the occurrence and development of TAD, and to guide the prevention, treatment and genetic research of TAD.

Key words: thoracic aortic dissection; TGF- β ; vascular smooth muscle cells; extracellular matrix; causative genes

主动脉夹层(aortic dissection, AD)是指由于动脉内膜局部撕裂, 继而撕裂处受到动脉内血流的冲击, 使内膜逐步剥离, 血液沿动脉长轴方向扩展进入主动脉壁中层, 在动脉内部形成又一个管腔。原主动脉管腔称为夹层真腔, 分离而形成的管腔称为夹层假腔^[1-2]。主动脉夹层在人群中的年发病率为3/10万左右, 其中男性约占67.5%^[3]。根据撕裂所在动脉的部位, 可以将主动脉夹层分为不同类型, 其中最为常见, 也最为凶险的就是胸主动脉夹层(thoracic aortic dissection, TAD)^[4-7]。通常, TAD的撕

裂处出现于主动脉应力最强的部位, 即升主动脉近心端或降主动脉起始端。当夹层破裂或伴发其他严重并发症时, TAD常常会导致患者猝死, 目前仍没有有效的早期预警和早期诊断手段^[1,8]。

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1 TAD的临床症状

TAD的发病症状中最为常见的是撕裂样尖锐疼痛, 85%以上的患者在胸部及背部出现强烈的疼痛, 并且疼痛发作极快, 在短时间内就可以到达疼痛的高峰, 严重者, 甚至会出现濒死感^[9]。就诊断而言, 可通过疼痛发生部位来判断病变部位^[11-14]。根据升主动脉是否受累, 可将TAD分为Stanford A和B型: Stanford A型TAD一般起始于升主动脉, 但也可发生在主动脉弓或降主动脉近端, 引起患者前胸及肩胛部疼痛; Stanford B型TAD主要累及胸降主动脉及左锁骨下动脉, 常伴有背部疼痛; 若累及腹主动脉则表现为腹部、腰背部疼痛; 极少数患者在病程早期发生夹层破裂, 血进而流入心包引起胸膜炎样疼痛^[3]。TAD导致的休克也与一般休克不同, TAD患者为剧痛而出现休克样, 通常皮肤湿冷、心率加快, 但血压变化与休克表现不平行, 仅为轻度下降, 甚至不降反升。主动脉破裂所引起的血压大幅度下降是一种常见的TAD患者死亡原因^[9]。Stanford A型夹层自发病起一小时死亡率约1%, 3天后死亡率可达50%, 2周后死亡率高达80%; 急性Stanford B型夹层患者30天内至少10%死亡, 高危患者可达70%^[3]。此外, 相比于Stanford B型夹层, Stanford A型夹层的患者常有主动脉夹层家族史, 且表现出更严重的疾病体征, 如低血压和晕厥等^[10]。因此, 即使与脑梗塞、心肌梗死和恶性肿瘤等广为人知的恶性病相比, TAD的凶险程度依然更高。目前, Bentall手术和全弓置换术是TAD主流治疗手段^[15-19]。但前者操作复杂、难度较大, 出现动脉压力较高、夹层破裂、出血, 甚至死亡的概率较高。而后者易导致凝血功能障碍和脑、脊髓以及肾等多种腹腔脏器的并发症^[1,11,20-21]。

考虑到TAD手术效果非常不理想, 且常有患者首发即死亡, 因此, 早期诊断显得尤为重要, 而深入了解TAD的发病机制, 将极大地提高TAD的预防及治疗效果。鉴于相当部分的患者(特别是有TAD家族史的患者)是由于遗传致病因素导致的, 利用突变筛查来辅助确诊TAD或者评估TAD的发病几率可能是一个未来发展的方向。

2 TAD的遗传发病机制

TAD的发病机制复杂, 受到遗传变异和环境因素的多重调控^[22-23]。目前研究认为, 免疫炎症、高血压、氧化应激、血管紧张素II、动脉粥样硬化和

遗传突变等是导致TAD的重要因素^[11,23-28], 而遗传因素无疑是其中的热点, 特别是二代高通量测序普及以来。

目前已至少鉴定出了43个TAD及相关疾病的致病基因(表1), 大致可以分成血管平滑肌细胞(vascular smooth muscle cells, VSMCs)及其收缩元件、细胞外基质(extracellular matrix, ECM)组分、TGF- β 信号通路成员和其他信号通路^[29]。

2.1 VSMCs与TAD

主动脉的张力与弹力主要来源于中膜, 目前主流观点认为中膜的退行性病变是TAD形成的主要因素, 而中膜是由VSMCs和ECM组成的。主动脉平滑肌的弹性收缩单元在应对脉动血流时会产生一个相应的力, 该功能的破坏可能是胸主动脉夹层发生的导火索。VSMCs与其周围的ECM是经由复杂的机械传感机制相互联系的。若没有与ECM通过局部黏着斑连接, VSMCs将无法产生力。基因突变可改变其力的传导机制, 使得VSMCs的收缩能力下降, 从而导致TAD发生。VSMCs相关基因突变导致TAD有两个途径: VSMCs收缩元件的功能障碍和VSMCs的凋亡^[30]。

2.1.1 VSMCs收缩元件的功能障碍

VSMCs的收缩元件包括钙调蛋白、肌球蛋白轻链激酶(MLCK)、 β 肌球蛋白(β -myosin)、 α 肌动蛋白(α -myosin)、黏着斑蛋白(vinculin)、细丝蛋白A(FLNA)等^[31](图1)。

VSMCs的收缩主要依靠 α 肌动蛋白和 β 肌球蛋白重链的相互作用。 α 肌动蛋白由ACTA2(p.Arg258Cys)基因编码, β 肌球蛋白则由MYH11基因编码^[32]。ACTA2已被证实是常染色体显性遗传疾病——家族性胸主动脉瘤及夹层(familial thoracic aortic aneurysm and dissection, FTAAD)的致病基因。ACTA2大多为功能缺失型突变, 能影响肌动蛋白的正常聚合或ATP的水解, 不利于VSMCs的收缩。研究表明, 当ACTA2发生突变时, 患者主动脉蛋白多糖聚集, 弹性纤维缺失断裂, VSMCs凋亡^[31]。而MYH11突变同样可能导致FTAAD。MYH11突变大多数发生在c端线圈区或杆区, 会使肌球蛋白的组装和稳定性异常, 引起VSMCs的过度增生和主动脉中层的退化, 从而诱导TAD的发生^[33]。

细丝蛋白A、黏着斑蛋白和Talin蛋白在收缩元件的定位中起重要作用^[30]。细丝蛋白A由FLNA基因编码, 参与细胞骨架的重塑, 影响细胞的形状和迁移, 是Ehlers-Danlos综合征(Ehlers-Danlos syndrome,

表1 胸主动脉夹层的主要致病基因及其相关信息

致病基因	OMIM	编码蛋白	遗传模式	TAD相关疾病	参考文献(PMID/DOI)
血管平滑肌细胞相关基因					
<i>MYH11</i>	160745	Myosin heavy chain 11 (肌球蛋白重链11)	AD	FTAAD	16444274
<i>ACTA2</i>	102620	Actin $\alpha 2$, smooth muscle (平滑肌肌动蛋白 $\alpha 2$)	AD	FTAAD, BAV	17994018
<i>FLNA</i>	300017	Filamin A (细丝蛋白A)	XL	BAV, vEDS	15668422
<i>MYLK</i>	600922	Myosin light chain kinase (肌球蛋白轻链激酶)	AD	FTAAD	21055718
<i>NLPR3</i>	606416	NLR family, pyrin domain containing 3 (含NLR家族Pyrin域蛋白3)	?	AAD	28153878
<i>LRP1</i>	107770	Low-density lipoprotein receptor-related protein 1 (低密度脂蛋白受体相关蛋白1)	?	STAD	27569546
<i>PRKG1</i>	176894	Protein kinase CGMP-dependent 1 (CGMP依赖性蛋白激酶1)	AD	FTAAD	23910461
<i>LMOD1</i>	602715	Leiomodin 1 (平滑肌蛋白1)	AD	TAAD	doi.org/10.1101/153452
细胞外基质相关基因					
<i>FBN1</i>	134797	Fibrillin 1 (原纤维蛋白1)	AD	MFS, FTAAD, SGS, BAV	8406497
<i>EFEMP2</i>	604633	Fibulin 4 (腓骨蛋白4)	AR	ARCLIB	16685658
<i>ELN</i>	130160	Elastin (弹性蛋白)	AD	CL	16085695
<i>COL1A2</i>	120160	Collagen type I $\alpha 2$ chain (I型胶原蛋白 $\alpha 2$ 链)	ADAR	EDSARTH2, EDSCV	2993307
<i>COL3A1</i>	120180	Collagen type III $\alpha 1$ chain (III型胶原蛋白 $\alpha 1$ 链)	AD	vEDS	9399899
<i>COL5A1</i>	120215	Collagen type V $\alpha 1$ chain (V型胶原蛋白 $\alpha 1$ 链)	AD	EDSCL1	8950675
<i>COL5A2</i>	120190	Collagen type V $\alpha 2$ chain (V型胶原蛋白 $\alpha 2$ 链)	AD	EDSCL2	9425231
<i>MFAP5</i>	601103	Microfibril associated protein 5 (微纤维相关蛋白5)	AD	FTAAD	25434006
<i>MAT2A</i>	601468	Methionine adenosyltransferase 2A (蛋氨酸腺苷转移酶2A)	AD	FTAAD, BAV	25557781
<i>FBN2</i>	612570	Fibrillin 2 (原纤维蛋白2)	AD	MFS, FTAAD	15121784
<i>BGN</i>	301870	Biglycan (双糖链蛋白聚糖)	XL	MLS	27632686
<i>LOX</i>	153455	Lysyl oxidase (赖氨酰氧化酶)	AD	FTAAD	26838787
<i>COL4A5</i>	303630	Collagen type IV $\alpha 5$ chain (IV型胶原蛋白 $\alpha 5$ 链)	XL	AS	20494893
<i>PLOD1</i>	153454	Procollagen-lysine-1,2-oxoglutarate-5-dioxygenase 1 (前胶原赖氨酸-1,2-酮戊二酸-5-双加氧酶1)	AR	EDSKSCL1	20301635
<i>VCAN</i>	118661	Versican (多能蛋白聚糖)	AD	LDS, TAAD	29515038
<i>LTBP3</i>	602090	Latent TGF- β binding protein-3 (TGF- β 家族相关隐性结合蛋白3)	AR	TAAD	29625025
TGF- β 信号通路相关基因					
<i>ACVRL1</i>	601284	Activin A receptor like type 1 (激活素受体样激酶1)	AD	HHT2	14684682
<i>ENG</i>	131195	Endoglin (内皮糖蛋白)	AD	HHT1	7894484
<i>GDF2</i>	605120	Growth differentiation factor 2 (生长分化因子2)	AD	HHT5	23972370
<i>SMAD2</i>	601366	SMAD family member 2 (SMAD家族蛋白2)	AD	LDS	23665959
<i>TGFB3</i>	190230	Transforming growth factor $\beta 3$ (转化生长因子 $\beta 3$)	AD	LDS5	23824657
<i>SMAD3</i>	603109	SMAD family member 3 (SMAD家族蛋白3)	AD	LDS3	21217753

表1 胸主动脉夹层的主要致病基因及其相关信息(续表)

致病基因	OMIM	编码蛋白	遗传模式	TAD相关疾病	参考文献(PMID/DOI)
<i>TGFβ2</i>	190220	Transforming growth factor β2 (转化生长因子β2)	AD	LDS4	22772368
<i>TGFβR1</i>	190181	Transforming growth factor β receptor 1 (转化生长因子-β受体1)	AD	LDS1	15731757
<i>TGFβR2</i>	190182	Transforming growth factor β receptor 2 (转化生长因子-β受体2)	AD	LDS2	15235604
<i>SMAD4</i>	600993	SMAD family member 4 (SMAD家族蛋白4)	AD	HHT	16613914
<i>SKI</i>	164780	SKI proto-oncogene (原癌基因SKI蛋白)	AD	SGS	23023332
其他基因					
<i>SLC2A10</i>	606145	Solute carrier family 2 member A10 (溶质载体家族蛋白2成员A10)	AR	ATS	16550171
<i>NOTCH1</i>	190198	Notch 1 (Notch1蛋白)	AD	BAV	16025100
<i>FOXE3</i>	601094	Forkhead box E3 (叉头蛋白E3)	AD	FTAAD	26854927
<i>KIF6</i>	613919	Kinesin family member 6 (驱动蛋白家族成员6)	?	CHD	28097184
<i>ULK4</i>	617010	unc-51-like kinase 4 (unc-51样激酶4)	?	STAAD	27569546
11q23.3-q24				BAV	17676603
5q13-q14				FTAAD	12466712
3p24-25				TAAD	12821554

AD: 常染色体显性遗传; AR: 常染色体隐性遗传; XL: X染色体连锁; FTAAD: 家族性胸主动脉瘤及夹层; MFS: 马凡氏综合征; SGS: Shprintzen-Goldberg综合征; LDS: Loey-Dietz综合征; HHT: 遗传性出血性毛细血管扩张症; BAV: 二叶主动脉瓣畸形; vEDS: 血管型Ehlers-Danlos综合征; EDSARTH2: VIIIB型Ehlers-Danlos综合征; EDSCV: 经典型Ehlers-Danlos综合征; EDSCL1: I型Ehlers-Danlos综合征; EDSCL2: II型Ehlers-Danlos综合征; CL: 皮肤松弛症; ARCL1B: IB型皮肤松弛症; MLS: Meesler-loeys综合征; ATS: 动脉扭曲综合征; EDSKSCL1: 脊柱型Ehlers-Danlos综合征1; CHD: 冠心病; STAD: 散发的胸主动脉夹层; STAAD: 散发的胸主动脉瘤及夹层综合征; AS: Aport 综合征

EDS)的致病基因^[34]。EDS是一类常染色体结缔组织病,也与TAD相关,包括13种亚型,如其中的血管型EDS (vascular EDS, vEDS)被认为是最严重的一种。除呈现薄而透明的皮肤、易瘀伤、面部畸形等特征外, vEDS患者更易发生动脉瘤或夹层。EDS的致病基因包括COL1A2 (EDSARTH2、EDSCV)、COL3A1 (vEDS)、COL5A1 (EDSCL1)、COL5A2 (EDSCL2)等,而携带FLNA基因突变的患者常伴有主动脉弹性的变性与管径的扩张^[35-36]。黏着斑蛋白是细胞和细胞、细胞和基质间相互连接的骨架蛋白,被认为是将肌动蛋白锚定到膜上的几种相互作用蛋白之一。Talin蛋白在肌动蛋白丝的组装以及各类细胞的迁移扩散中起到重要作用。它与细胞膜中的整合蛋白相互作用,有助于细胞附着到ECM上^[37]。上述蛋白质的异常均有可能导致TAD。

不同于上述直接构成收缩原件的蛋白, PRKG1编码的1型cGMP依赖性蛋白激酶可作为氧化还原传感器在VSMCs的舒张过程中发挥作用。当细胞暴露在外源性的过氧化氢中时, 2个PRKG1的 α 亚型蛋白会形成二硫键,增强与底物的亲和力。这种氧化诱导的激活在氧化剂诱导血管舒张的生理活动中至关

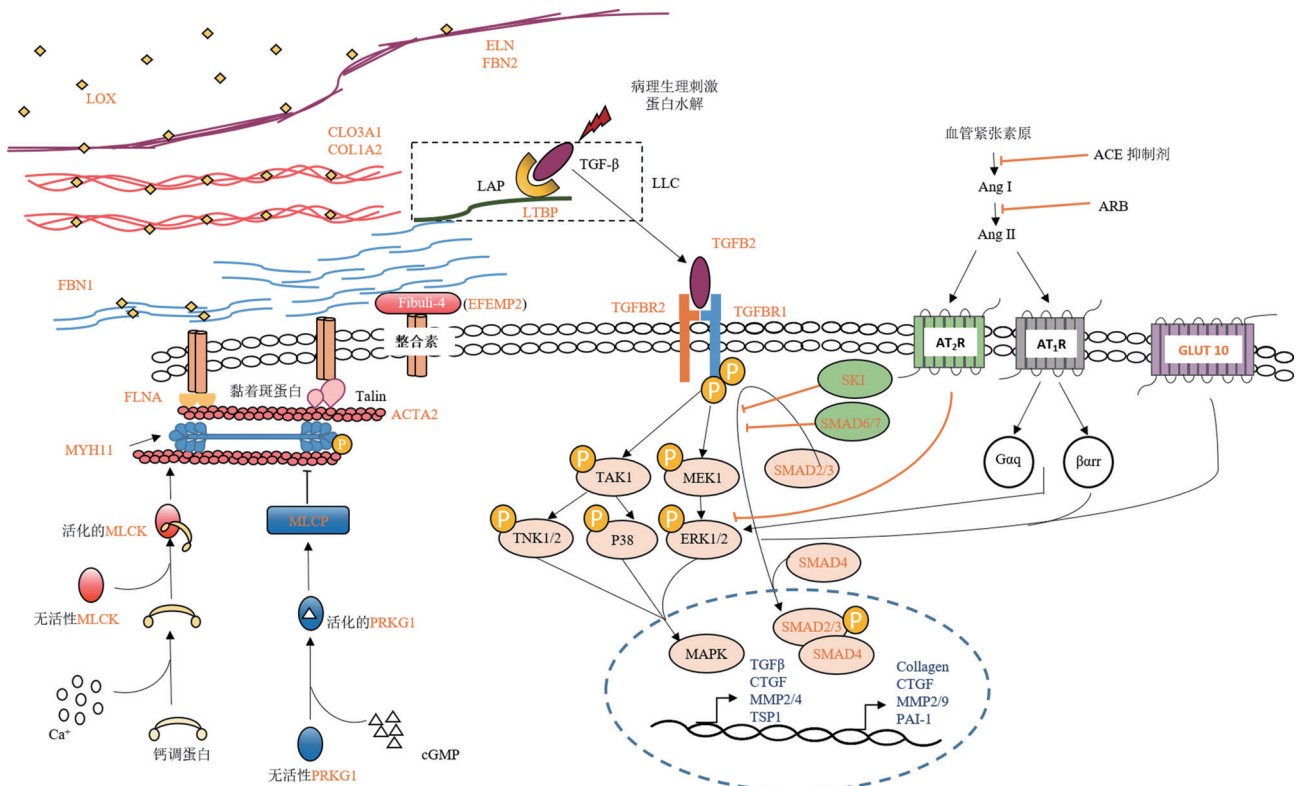
重要,它通过激活可溶性鸟苷酸环化酶,增加细胞cGMP,调节细胞内多个结构,使VSMCs舒张^[37]。PRKG1的主要亚型PKG-1 α 是肌球蛋白轻链激酶活性的负调节因子,其异常会引起相应的病理性改变(图1)。若PRKG1的错义突变p.Arg177Gln位于该负调控区域,会引起PKG-1 α 的构成性激活,使得肌球蛋白轻链激酶的活性降低,进而导致FTAAD的发生^[38-39]。

2.1.2 VSMCs的凋亡

中层退行性病变的另一重要特征是VSMCs凋亡。在TAD患者主动脉组织中可观察到VSMCs的凋亡,尤其是在富含基质区域及滋养血管处;进一步研究还发现, TAD患者VSMCs中编码细胞骨架和肌纤维蛋白的基因表达下调、肌丝丢失以及粗面内质网和高尔基复合体增大,表明细胞由收缩型向合成型转变^[40]。

2.2 ECM与TAD

ECM主要包括弹力纤维、胶原纤维、蛋白聚糖、黏多糖和多种黏附蛋白。病理研究表明, TAD患者主动脉中层的弹力蛋白和弹性纤维交联明显减少,而主动脉壁的延展性主要来源于弹力纤维^[41]。



胸动脉夹层(TAD)形成相关分子及其信号通路包括FBN1、COL1A2等细胞外基质, ACTA2、MYH11等肌肉收缩元件,以及SMAD2/3等TGF- β 信号通路蛋白。已知的TAD易感基因用橙色表示。

图1 TAD相关蛋白的定位及部分致病机制的示意图

弹力纤维在保护和维持血管弹性和稳定性中发挥重要作用,微原纤维是其重要组分之一。微原纤维主要由两种大的糖蛋白组成,即原纤维蛋白1(FBN1)和原纤维蛋白2(FBN2),是维持机体ECM完整性的重要组成部分^[42]。FBN1可以通过与整合素受体相结合影响细胞的信号转导,也可以和硫酸乙酰肝素蛋白聚糖相互作用调节基质的沉积,还可以通过游离转化生长因子(TGF- β)调节组织的稳态(图1)。*FBN1*基因敲除小鼠表现出马凡综合征(Marfan syndrome, MFS)样的特征,如弹力纤维变薄、断裂,主动脉直径变大、壁张力减小,且更易形成主动脉动脉瘤和夹层。在人体中,*FBN1*基因的错义、移码、无义突变、剪接错误或缺失均可能导致FTAAD和MFS^[43]。*FBN1*移码突变和无义突变可能导致FBN1蛋白合成受阻,血管平滑肌细胞内FBN1蛋白水平下降。这种减少会增强TGF- β 信号通路的激活,从而导致血管平滑肌细胞凋亡增加,提高主动脉夹层的风险。MFS是一种常染色体显性的结缔组织病,涉及骨骼、眼部和心血管异常等。MFS中的TAD患者主动脉壁中含有FBN1的微原纤维减少,还出现I型胶原合成缺陷、内侧胶原纤维紊乱、胶原沉积增多、弹性蛋白和弹性蛋白特异性交联化合物蛋白浓度降低的表型^[37]。FBN2主要在胚胎期表达,对主动脉形态发育具有重要作用^[30]。

此外,FBN5作为调控弹性纤维合成的关键蛋白,广泛分布于血管等结缔组织,对ECM的合成和降解起着重要的调控作用。临床资料证明,主动脉夹层患者动脉壁内FBN5水平明显降低。基质金属蛋白酶(MMPs)是一类依赖钙离子的ECM降解酶,在组织损伤修复中起到重要作用^[41]。MMPs表达的上调可导致弹力纤维和VSMCs的破坏,从而损伤主动脉中膜。研究表明,TAD组织中MMP1、MMP2、MMP9表达显著增加,且MMP11、MMP14、MMP19也相对上调,说明MMPs与TAD的发生密切相关^[44]。

2.3 TGF- β 信号通路与TAD

大量临床数据和研究表明,TGF- β 信号通路异常与TAD相关疾病关系密切。起初,TGF- β 信号通路在炎症、组织修复以及胚胎发育中的作用受到广泛关注^[45]。近年来,越来越多研究表明其在调控细胞生长、分化以及免疫中也起着重要作用,在心血管疾病中同样发挥重要功能^[46-54]。TGF- β 信号通路既可以调控ECM合成的因子,又能上调ECM降解酶(MMP2、MMP9等)的表达^[44]。

TGF- β 主要通过调控下游信号因子发挥作用,SMAD蛋白家族(SMAD1~8)是其下游分子之一。TGF- β 与细胞膜上的TGF- β 受体1、2(TGFBR1、2)结合后,磷酸化SMAD2、3并形成SMAD2/3复合物,SMAD2/3复合物与SMAD4结合后进入细胞核调控靶基因的表达(图1)。Lemaire等^[55]的研究表明,SMAD2、SMAD3及SMAD4在TAD血管壁中高表达,说明在TAD的血管平滑肌细胞中,TGF- β 信号通路被激活。

TGF- β 信号通路相关基因突变会使TGF- β 通路异常,破坏ECM的平衡和稳定,导致TAD和TAD相关综合征,如Loeys-dietz综合征(Loeys-dietz syndrome, LDS)等。目前已鉴定的TGF- β 信号通路致病基因包括TGF- β 受体编码基因*TGFBR1*、*TGFBR2*,TGF- β 配体编码基因*TGFB2*和*TGFB3*,以及TGF- β 通路下游效应分子编码基因*SMAD2*和*SMAD3*等^[44]。

2.4 其他信号通路

*SLC2A10*编码10型葡萄糖转运体(GLUT10),在血管平滑肌细胞中,其主要定位于线粒体上。尽管转录组学研究暗示*SLC2A10*可能与TGF- β 信号通路相关,但目前认为其主要涉及能量代谢、钙结合和稳态、肌肉细胞骨架和细胞周期。在斑马鱼中,*SLC2A10*敲除胚胎的线粒体氧气消耗减少,对化学解耦剂反应迟钝。人类遗传学研究表明,*SLC2A10*突变,如c.1456G>T,可以导致FTAAD的发生^[56]。

此外,Notch信号通路也是近几年来新发现的与TAD形成有关的一个通路。*NOTCH1*的突变会导致二叶主动脉瓣畸形(bicuspid aortic valve, BAV),其中个别患者存在TAD症状^[57]。

2.5 GWAS与TAD

家族聚集性研究表明,超过20%的胸主动脉瘤和夹层患者都有家族病史,且这些大多是由单一基因突变引起的,但另外有大量研究显示TAD的遗传易感因素还包括单核苷酸多态性(SNPs)。LeMaire等^[58]通过全基因组关联研究(genome-wide association studies, GWAS),比较了765名散发性TAAD患者和874名正常个体,确定了15q21.1位点的SNPs(rs10519177、rs2118181)与散发性TAAD发生相关。2014年,一项对中国汉族人群的研究表明,7号染色体上的rs10263935和20号染色体上的rs6045676与主动脉夹层相关。主动脉夹层患者rs10263935中AA、AG基因型频率及A等位基因频率明显高于对照组;rs6045676中GG基因型频率和

G等位基因频率也明显高于对照组^[59]。另一项对753名STAD的欧洲个体分析表明, *LRP1*中的一个内含子SNP (12号染色体上的rs11172113)与STAD的风险降低显著相关, *ULK4*的非同义SNP (3号染色体上的rs2272007)与STAD显著相关^[60]。这些易感位点与环境因素相互作用最终决定了TAD的发生和发展。

2.6 CNV与TAD

拷贝数变异(copy number variations, CNVs)被认为可以增加常见多因素疾病的风险, 如自闭症(MIM 209850)、精神分裂症(MIM 181500), 以及先天性心血管疾病等^[61]。目前已被广泛鉴定的可能与胸主动脉相关的CNVs包括3p24-p25、5q13-q14、11q23.3-q24、16p13.12-p13.13等^[61-64]。这些CNVs大多涉及多种调节平滑肌细胞的黏附性或收缩性, 以及与平滑肌特异性亚型(如 α -肌动蛋白和 β -肌球蛋白)相互作用的基因^[65]。例如, 16p13.1微重复会导致主动脉夹层患病风险至少增加12倍, 该区域涉及9个基因, 包括*MYH11*等^[66]。Prakash等^[67]鉴定出9个罕见的拷贝数变异与TAD相关, 其中拷贝数变异最多和最常见的是Xq28微缺失和微重复, 以及17q25.1微重复。此外, CNV分析也证实*ULK4*缺失可能与胸主动脉疾病的发生相关^[60]。

3 展望

TAD是一类致死性血管疾病, 其发病率高、死亡率高、预后差, 且部分患者首发症状即为猝死, 因此, 对于TAD的早期诊断十分重要。鉴于TAD具有较强的家族聚集性特点, 对家族性TAD患者进行遗传学研究, 不仅能扩充TAD的致病基因谱, 为开发新的靶向治疗药物提供靶点, 还有利于对TAD致病基因携带者采取相应的预防措施以降低TAD的发病几率或减缓发病进程。诸如养成合理的饮食习惯, 定时定量进食, 加大对蔬菜以及粗纤维食物的摄取; 养成良好的生活方式, 戒除抽烟等不良嗜好以及不良生活习惯, 并保持稳定的情绪; 避免剧烈的无氧运动和重体力劳动, 但应进行适当的有氧运动, 以利于维持正常的心肺功能, 并日常关注自己的血压状况, 以上均有利于预防TAD的发生^[1]。

随着新一代的测序技术的出现, 如全基因组测序(whole genome sequencing, WGS), 许多与TAD相关的新的意义不明的变异(VUS)也被鉴别, 但由于缺乏更多的病例报道以及实验证据不足, 其确切的风险仍是待定的。现阶段研究表明, 许多归为VUS的变异可能具有较低的致病性和破坏性^[68-69]。在未

来, 将患者特异性突变与明确定义的表型联系起来, 将使精确管理和精确调整手术干预成为可能, 从而避免不必要的手术, 进一步降低死亡率^[42]。

此外, TAD发生的相关机制也尚未完全阐明, 一般认为包括TGF- β 信号异常、VSMCs和ECM缺陷等多种因素。但其中仍存在一些重要的争议性问题, 如无法解释TGF- β 信号通路中相关基因的功能丧失性突变反而激活信号通路这一现象^[44]。深入了解TAD的发病机制, 将极大提高TAD的预防及治疗效果。CRISPR-Cas系统是近年来的热点技术之一, 该技术与高通量测序技术结合形成的GeCKO (genome-scale CRISPR-Cas9 knockout)技术能够在基因组水平对参与和影响细胞信号通路的成员整体扫描, 从而更全面地探究相关的信号通路调控网络, 是未来研究TAD致病机制的一个可选方向^[70]。

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