

·临床研究·

慢性心力衰竭与外周血白细胞端粒长度的相关性

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摘要:【目的】探讨外周血白细胞端粒长度与慢性心力衰竭(CHF)发生风险的相关性。【方法】本研究招募了224例患者,根据左心室射血分数分为非CHF(Non-CHF)组(117例)和CHF组(107例),用实时荧光定量多聚核苷酸链式反应(qPCR)进行外周血白细胞端粒长度的测量。比较Non-CHF组和CHF组患者端粒长度,并采用二元Logistic回归模型分析端粒长度与CHF发生风险是否相关。【结果】Non-CHF组和CHF组患者外周血白细胞端粒相对长度分别为0.9(0.64~1.18)、0.7(0.53~0.89),CHF组患者的端粒长度比Non-CHF组患者缩短,差异有统计学意义($P<0.001$),且端粒长度与CHF发生风险相关[OR=0.17, 95% CI为(0.07, 0.40), $P<0.05$]。在调整了混杂因素后,端粒长度仍与CHF发生风险相关[OR=0.14, 95% CI为(0.05, 0.33), $P<0.05$]。【结论】研究结果显示外周血白细胞端粒长度与CHF发生风险独立相关。

关键词: 白细胞;端粒;端粒长度;慢性心力衰竭

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Association Between Telomere Length of Peripheral Blood Leukocytes and Chronic Heart Failure

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Abstract: 【Objective】 To explore the association between telomere length of leukocytes and chronic heart failure (CHF). 【Methods】 A total of 224 patients were recruited in this study. The patients were divided into non-CHF (Non-CHF) group (involving 117 patients) and CHF group (involving 107 patients) according to left ventricular ejection fraction. Telomere length of peripheral blood leukocytes was measured by real-time fluorescence quantitative polynucleotide chain reaction (qPCR). Telomere length of leukocytes was compared between Non-CHF group and CHF group. Binary Logistic regression model was used to analyze the association between telomere length and CHF. 【Results】 Telomere length in Non-CHF patients and CHF patients was 0.9(0.64~1.18), 0.7(0.53~0.89), respectively. Telomere length was shorter in CHF patients than in Non-CHF patients ($P<0.001$). Further results showed that telomere length was associated with CHF [OR=0.17, 95% CI was (0.07, 0.40), $P<0.05$]. After adjusting confounding factors, telomere length was still associated with CHF [OR=0.14, 95% CI was (0.05, 0.33), $P<0.05$]. 【Conclusion】 The results show that telomere length of peripheral blood leukocytes is independently associated with CHF.

Key words: leukocyte; telomere; telomere length; chronic heart failure

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端粒位于人类染色体的末端,保护着染色体结构稳定和遗传完整^[1],它的初始长度由遗传和环境因素决定^[2-5]。生理和病理老化的修复过程伴随着细胞分裂,在细胞分裂时,脱氧核糖核酸(deoxyribonucleic acid, DNA)聚合酶不能完全复制端粒,从而导致端粒累积磨损。当端粒达到临界长度时,细胞进入复制性衰老,发生凋亡或基因不稳定^[6-7]。因此,端粒长度在维持DNA的完整性和细胞的健康方面起着至关重要的作用。端粒长度与很多心血管疾病发病机制相关^[8-10],而许多心血管疾病与氧化应激和炎症相关,慢性心力衰竭(chronic heart failure, CHF)是其中之一^[11-13]。氧化应激和炎症是加速端粒缩短和生物衰老的主要环境因素。国外有临床研究显示CHF与端粒长度相关^[14]。白细胞端粒长度易于检测,若端粒长度对诊断CHF有价值,则其不仅是CHF的潜在生物标志物,还可能是导致CHF发生的危险因素。而国内还未见报道关于CHF与端粒长度的相关性研究,为了研究中国汉族人群的端粒长度与CHF发生风险是否相关,我们检测并分析了117位非CHF(Non-CHF)患者和107位CHF患者端粒长度。

1 材料与方 法

1.1 研究对象纳入和排除标准

选择2016年5月至2017年5月在南方医科大学珠江医院心内科住院治疗的患者,均为汉族。根据左心室射血分数(left ventricular ejection fraction, LVEF)分为Non-CHF和CHF组。排除标准:①严重肝肾功能不全;②恶性肿瘤;③急性或慢性炎症。纳入标准:入选患者年龄在35岁到85岁之间,对照组Non-CHF患者LVEF为大于50%,纽约心脏病协会心功能分级I级;CHF组患者的LVEF小于40%,纽约心脏病协会心功能分级II级到IV级超过3个月。一般临床资料的采集和血液样本的收集都经过入选对象的知情同意,并通过南方医科大学珠江医院伦理委员会批准(2017-XXGNK-001)。

1.2 临床基本资料

采集所有入选患者的年龄、性别、身高、体质量、LVEF、吸烟史、糖尿病史、高脂血症病史、高血压病史等。

1.3 端粒长度测定

将采集的外周静脉血解冻后,分离提取白细胞DNA,使用Cawthon描述的实时荧光定量多聚核苷酸链式反应(real-time fluorescence quantitative polynucleotide chain reaction, qPCR)方法测定端粒长度^[15]。引物由上海生工生物技术有限公司合成,人端粒引物为:Tel1:GGTTTTTGAGGGTGAGGGT-GAGGGTGAGGGTGAGGGT, Tel2:TCCCGACTATCCCTATCCCTATCCCTATCCCTATCCCTA,人对照基因引物为HBG1:GCTTCTGACACAACCTGTGTTCACTAGC, HBG2:CACCAACTTCATCCACGTTCCACC两种。每个样品一式三份进行测定,以qPCR反应体系进行热循环,在荧光定量PCR仪中完成。端粒的长度由端粒样本重复拷贝数和对照基因的拷贝数的比值表达。

1.4 统计方法

采用SPSS19.0统计软件,Kolmogorov-Smirnov test进行计量资料的正态性检验,正态性分布的计量资料采用 $\bar{x} \pm s$ 表示,非正态性分布采用中位数及四分位数间距 $M(P_{25} \sim P_{75})$ 表示;符合正态分布的两组间的比较采用 t 检验,非正态性分布两组间的比较采用Mann-Whitney U test。经正态性检验Non-CHF和CHF组患者的年龄、体质量指数以及冠心病(CAD)引起的CHF和非冠心病(Non-CAD)引起的CHF组患者的年龄、LVEF符合正态分布,采用 t 检验。Non-CHF和CHF组患者的年龄、LVEF以及CAD CHF和Non-CAD CHF组患者的心率、体质量指数不符合正态性分布,采用Mann-Whitney U test。计数资料性别及吸烟史、高血压病史、高脂血症病史及糖尿病史占比以百分率表示,两组间的比较采用 χ^2 检验。采用二元logistic回归分析评估端粒长度与CHF发生风险的相关性。 $P < 0.05$ 差异有统计学意义。

2 结 果

2.1 研究对象的临床基本资料

Non-CHF组和CHF组患者分别为117例、107例,两组患者的年龄、吸烟史、高血压病史、心率、高脂血症病史差异均无统计学意义($P > 0.05$)。性别、体质量指数(body mass index, BMI)、糖尿病病史差异有统计学意义($P < 0.05$;表1)。

表1 一般临床资料比较
Table 1 Comparison of total participant characteristics

Characteristics	Non-CHF (n=117)	CHF (n=107)	$[M (P_{25}\sim P_{75}), \bar{x} \pm s]$	
			$t/\chi^2/Z$	P
Age/years	61.21±9.91	63.09±12.16	-1.27 ¹⁾	0.21
Male [n(%)]	74(63.25)	81(75.70)	4.07 ²⁾	0.04
BMI/(kg/m ²)	24.79±3.38	23.75±3.90	2.13 ¹⁾	0.03
Smoke [n(%)]	42(35.90)	44(41.12)	0.65 ²⁾	0.42
Hypertensive [n(%)]	66(56.41)	56(52.34)	0.37 ²⁾	0.54
Heart rate/ bpm	74.10±6.10	74.33±6.56	-0.59 ³⁾	0.95
Hyperlipemia [n(%)]	41(35.04)	45(42.06)	1.16 ²⁾	0.28
Diabetes [n(%)]	21(17.95)	40(37.38)	10.65 ²⁾	0.00
LVEF/%	58.49±4.44	29.34±6.60	-13.07 ³⁾	0.00

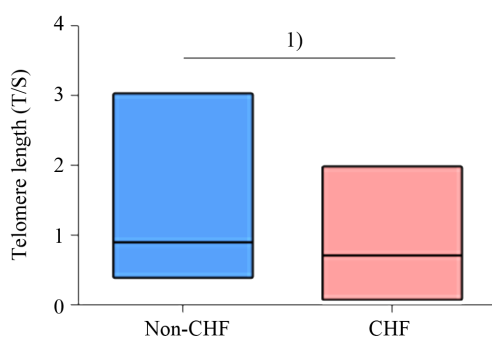
CHF: chronic heart failure; Non-CHF: non-chronic heart failure; BMI: body mass index; bpm: beats per minute; LVEF: left ventricular ejection fraction. ¹⁾ Statistical analysis was performed using t test, ²⁾ Statistical analysis was performed using χ^2 test, ³⁾ Statistical analysis was performed using Mann Whitney U test, between two groups.

2.2 非慢性心力衰竭与慢性心力衰竭患者端粒长度的比较

检测 Non-CHF 与 CHF 组患者外周血白细胞端粒长度分别为 0.9 (0.64~1.18)、0.7 (0.53~0.89), CHF 组患者的端粒长度明显短于 Non-CHF 组患者 (图 1), 差异有统计学意义 ($Z = -4.36, P < 0.001$)。

2.3 非冠心病导致的慢性心力衰竭与冠心病导致的慢性心力衰竭患者端粒长度的比较

我们根据冠状动脉造影结果及病史, 把入选的 CHF 患者分为 Non-CAD CHF 组和 CAD CHF 组,



Box: median and interquartile range of telomere length; CHF: chronic heart failure; Non-CHF: non-chronic heart failure; 1) $Z = -4.36, P < 0.001$ between two groups. Statistical analysis was performed using Mann Whitney U test.

图1 Non-CHF组与CHF组患者端粒长度的比较

Fig. 1 Comparison of telomere length between Non-CHF group and CHF group

两组患者的人数分别为 46 例、61 例, 两组患者的年龄、性别、体质量指数、心率、吸烟史、高血压病史、糖尿病病史、高脂血症病史差异均无统计学意义 ($P > 0.05$; 表 2)。Non-CAD CHF 组与 CAD CHF 组患者的端粒长度分别为 0.76 (0.55~0.94)、0.65 (0.5~0.86), CAD-CHF 组端粒长度稍短 (图 2), 但是两组端粒长度差异无统计学意义 ($Z = -1.42, P = 1.57$)。

Non-CHF 患者分别与 Non-CAD CHF 和 CAD CHF 患者的端粒长度进行比较, 结果显示 Non-CHF 患者的端粒长度明显长于 Non-CAD CHF 和 CAD CHF 患者 (图 2), 差异均有统计学意义 ($Z = -2.67, P = 0.008; Z = -4.26, P = 0.000$)。

2.4 端粒长度与慢性心力衰竭发生风险的相关性

进一步分析端粒长度是否与 CHF 发生风险相关, 以外周血白细胞端粒长度作为自变量建立 Logistic 回归模型 1 (表 3), 结果显示端粒长度与 CHF 发生风险相关 ($OR = 0.17, 95\% CI$ 为 (0.07, 0.40), $P < 0.05$)。在调整了性别、BMI、糖尿病等混杂因素后建立 Logistic 回归模型 2 (表 4), 结果显示端粒长度仍与 CHF 发生风险独立相关 [$OR = 0.14, 95\% CI$ 为 (0.05, 0.33); $P < 0.05$]。

3 讨论

本研究采用 qPCR 测量方法, 检测外周血白细

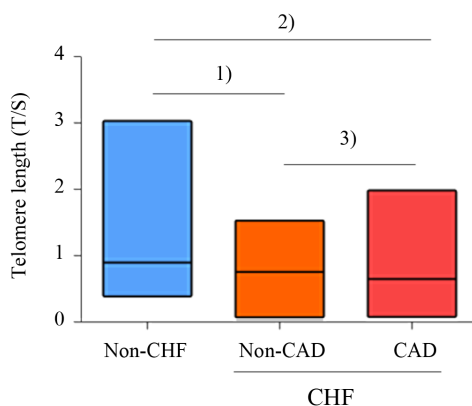
表2 两组CHF患者一般临床资料比较

Table 2 Comparison of general clinical data of patients with CHF

[$M(P_{25} \sim P_{75}), \bar{x} \pm s$]

Characteristics	Non-CAD CHF (n=46)	CAD CHF (n=61)	$t/\chi^2/Z$	P
Age/years	62.35±1.57	63.66±12.66	0.55 ¹⁾	0.58
Male [n(%)]	31(67.39)	50(81.97)	3.03 ²⁾	0.08
BMI/(kg/m ²)	23.21±4.38	24.16±3.48	-1.27 ³⁾	0.20
Smoke [n(%)]	15(32.61)	29(47.54)	2.42 ²⁾	0.12
Hypertensive [n(%)]	22(47.83)	34(55.74)	0.66 ²⁾	0.42
Heart rate / bmp	74.67±7.03	74.07±6.24	-0.55 ³⁾	0.58
Hyperlipemia [n(%)]	18(39.13)	27(44.26)	0.28 ²⁾	0.59
Diabetes [n(%)]	15(32.61)	25(40.98)	0.79 ²⁾	0.38
LVEF/%	28.08±6.25	30.29±6.74	1.74 ¹⁾	0.09

CAD CHF: chronic heart failure caused by coronary heart disease; Non-CAD CHF: chronic heart failure caused by non-coronary heart disease; BMI: body mass index; bmp: beats per minute; LVEF: Left ventricular ejection fraction.¹⁾ Statistical analysis was performed using t test, ²⁾ Statistical analysis was performed using χ^2 test, ³⁾ Statistical analysis was performed using Mann Whitney U test, between two groups.



Box: median and interquartile range of telomere length; CHF: chronic heart failure; Non-CHF: non-chronic heart failure; Non-CAD CHF: chronic heart failure caused by non-coronary artery disease; CAD CHF: chronic heart failure caused by coronary artery disease; 1) $Z = -2.67, P = 0.008$, 2) $Z = -4.26, P = 0.000$, 3) $Z = -1.42, P = 1.57$, between two groups. Statistical analysis was performed using Mann Whitney U test.

图2 Non-CHF、Non-CAD CHF和CAD CHF组端粒长度的比较

Fig. 2 Comparison of telomere length among Non-CHF, Non-CAD CHF and CAD CHF groups

胞端粒长度,结果显示CHF患者端粒长度比Non-CHF患者明显缩短,差异有统计学意义($Z = -4.36, P < 0.001$)。按病因将CHF患者分为CAD CHF组和Non-CAD CHF组,比较两组端粒长度并无统计学差异($Z = -1.42, P = 1.57$)。在调整混杂因素后,Logistic回归分析显示外周血白细胞端粒长度与CHF

发生风险独立相关(OR=0.14, 95% CI为(0.05, 0.34), $P < 0.05$)。

外周血白细胞端粒长度的缩短速率与其他组织保持动态一致^[16]。且外周血白细胞端粒长度易获取、无创伤,被广泛用作其他组织的替代指标。用qPCR方法^[17]检测外周血白细胞端粒长度所需的材料少,并且速度快,是目前测量端粒长度最常用的方法。因此本研究采用了qPCR方法检测外周血白细胞端粒长度。

端粒被称为细胞的“生物钟”,是公认的细胞衰老的标志^[18]。当端粒长度达到一个临界时,将阻止细胞分裂,并可能导致细胞功能下降。许多实验研究观察到端粒长度与各种衰老相关的心血管疾病相关,而CHF是与衰老相关的心血管疾病之一,有研究发现CHF发生风险与端粒长度相关^[19-20],文献中报道对照人群的端粒长度为1.05(0.86~1.29),CHF患者的端粒相对长度为0.64(0.47~0.88)。在我们的研究中Non-CHF患者的端粒相对长度为0.9(0.64~1.18),CHF患者的端粒平均相对长度为0.7(0.53~0.89),CHF患者的端粒长度明显缩短($Z = -4.36, P < 0.001$)。CHF急性失代偿情况会发生急性心力衰竭,有文献报道急性心力衰竭的年龄与端粒长度负相关^[21],但是,急性心力衰竭是否与端粒长度相关还未见文献报道。

有文献报道CAD CHF患者的端粒长度比Non-CAD CHF患者的明显缩短^[20],而在我们的研

表3 Logistic回归模型1中端粒长度与慢性心力衰竭发生风险之间的关系

Table 3 Relationship between telomere length and CHF in logistic regression model 1

Variable	<i>b</i>	<i>S_b</i>	Wald χ^2	<i>P</i>	OR	OR(95% CI)
Constant	1.40	0.38	13.95	0.000	-	-
Telomere length	-1.77	0.43	16.91	0.000	0.17	(0.07, 0.40)

表4 Logistic回归模型2中端粒长度与慢性心力衰竭发生风险之间的关系

Table 4 Relationship between telomere length and CHF in logistic regression model 2

Variables	<i>b</i>	<i>S_b</i>	Wald χ^2	<i>P</i>	OR	OR(95% CI)
Constant	5.09	1.28	15.83	0.000	-	-
Telomere length	-2.00	0.47	18.42	0.000	0.14	(0.05, 0.33)
Sex	-0.86	0.33	6.78	0.009	0.43	(0.22, 0.81)
BMI	-0.11	0.04	6.75	0.009	0.90	(0.83, 0.97)
Diabetes	0.73	0.29	6.43	0.011	2.08	(1.18, 3.68)

BMI: body mass index.

究中,比较CAD CHF和Non-CAD CHF患者的端粒长度,结果发现两组之间的端粒长度并无统计学差异($Z = -1.42, P = 1.57$)。与文献报道不同的原因可能是本研究中两组CHF患者的一般资料及LVEF均无统计学差异,而文献中并未提及这些因素的差别,另外可能的原因是本研究入组患者人数有限。

以上研究结果提示端粒长度可能与CHF发生

风险独立相关。因此,在调整混杂因素后,Logistic回归分析显示外周血白细胞端粒长度与CHF发生风险独立相关[OR=0.14, 95% CI为(0.05, 0.33), $P < 0.05$]。但这一研究结果并不能明确两者之间的因果关系,端粒长度的缩短可能是CHF的危险因素,也有可能是CHF加速了端粒长度的缩短,又或者两者互为因果,需要更多的研究去证实。

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