

阿托伐他汀联合低分子肝素对脓毒症大鼠炎症反应及肺脏的保护作用

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【摘要】 目的 探讨阿托伐他汀(ATO)联合低分子肝素(LMWH)对脓毒症大鼠炎症反应及肺脏的保护作用。方法 选择健康雄性SD大鼠122只,按随机数字表法分为假手术(Sham)组($n=10$)、脓毒症组($n=10$)、ATO组($n=34$)、LMWH组($n=34$)、ATO联合LMWH组(联合组, $n=34$)。采用盲肠结扎穿孔术(CLP)制备脓毒症大鼠模型; Sham组只开腹,不结扎、穿孔。各预处理组于术前相应灌胃ATO 20 mg/kg以及皮下注射LMWH 100 U/kg或二者联用,均连续给药5 d。依据改良脓毒症严重程度评定标准对各组大鼠的病情程度进行评分; 每组取10只大鼠观察7 d存活情况。于术前(0 h)及术后4、8、12、24 h取血,采用酶联免疫吸附试验(ELISA)检测血浆肿瘤坏死因子- α (TNF- α)、白细胞介素(IL-1 β)、高迁移率族蛋白B1(HMGB1)水平; 术后24 h取肺组织,苏木素-伊红(HE)染色后光镜下观察病理学改变。结果 ①脓毒症组术后4 h病情严重程度评分即较Sham组明显增高(分: 12.2 ± 2.0 比 7.2 ± 0.5 , $P < 0.05$),且呈逐渐升高趋势,7 d累积死亡率达90%(9/10)。ATO组、LMWH组、联合组8 h起病情严重程度评分均较脓毒症组明显下降(分: 12.2 ± 2.0 、 11.2 ± 2.2 、 10.0 ± 1.7 比 16.6 ± 2.5 , 均 $P < 0.05$),7 d累积死亡率分别为60%(6/10)、60%(6/10)、40%(4/10),均较脓毒症组显著降低(均 $P < 0.05$)。②Sham组术后各炎性因子水平无明显变化; 其他4组各炎性因子水平均较术前明显升高, TNF- α 在4 h、IL-1 β 在8 h、HMGB1在24 h达峰值。脓毒症组各炎性因子水平均较Sham组显著升高; 而ATO组、LMWH组、联合组各炎性因子水平均明显低于脓毒症组[4 h TNF- α (ng/L): 668.3 ± 124.6 、 536.5 ± 118.5 、 496.5 ± 108.5 比 783.8 ± 134.7 , 8 h IL-1 β (ng/L): 2476.7 ± 137.8 、 2460.4 ± 171.2 、 2090.0 ± 151.2 比 2873.9 ± 295.6 , 24 h HMGB1 ($\mu\text{g/L}$): 654.4 ± 154.4 、 659.0 ± 134.6 、 609.4 ± 90.5 比 859.3 ± 167.5 , $P < 0.05$ 或 $P < 0.01$]。③光镜下观察, Sham组肺泡组织形态正常; 脓毒症组肺脏病理损害较为严重; 而3个预处理组肺脏病理损害较脓毒症组明显减轻,以联合组改善最为明显。结论 ATO、LMWH可降低脓毒症大鼠严重程度,抑制血浆早期及晚期炎性因子释放,减轻肺部病理改变,降低死亡率,联合应用ATO和LMWH效果更佳。

【关键词】 脓毒症; 盲肠结扎穿孔术; 阿托伐他汀; 低分子肝素; 炎性因子

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Protective effects of combined use of atorvastatin and low molecular weight heparin on the inflammatory reaction and pulmonary functions in rats with sepsis Ren Hongsheng, Ding Min, Ma Haihong, Yao Qingchun, Qi Guoqiang, Xu Qingxiang, Chu Yufeng, Wang Chunting

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【Abstract】 Objective To investigate the influence of combined use of atorvastatin (ATO) and low molecular weight heparin (LMWH) on the inflammatory reaction and pulmonary protection functions in rats with sepsis. **Methods** A total of 122 healthy male Sprague-Dawley (SD) rats were divided into five groups using a random number table: sham-operated group (sham group, $n = 10$), sepsis group ($n = 10$), ATO group ($n = 34$), LMWH group ($n = 34$), and ATO combined with LMWH group (ATO+LMWH group, $n = 34$). The rat model of sepsis was reproduced by cecal ligation and puncture (CLP), while in sham group, rats were only subjected to laparotomy without cecum ligation and puncture. The rats of each pretreatment group received relevant therapies for 5 days, either gastric perfusion with ATO 20 mg/kg or subcutaneous injection with LMWH 100 U/kg or both before operation. The sepsis severities

of the model animals were scored according to the modified sepsis severity assessment standards of experimental animals. Ten rats in each group were calculated the 7-day cumulative mortality rate. Blood samples from 6 rats in each group were collected to determine the levels of tumor necrosis factor- α (TNF- α), interleukin-1 β (IL-1 β) and high mobility group protein box-1 (HMGB1) contents in plasma using enzyme linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) before operation (0 hour) and 4, 8, 12, and 24 hours post operation. The lung tissue was harvested 24 hours after operation, and the pulmonary pathology was assayed by hematoxylin and eosin (HE) staining using optical microscope.

Results ① The sepsis severity grades of sepsis group were significantly higher than those of sham group at 4 hours after operation (score: 12.2 ± 2.0 vs. 7.2 ± 0.5 , $P < 0.05$). Furthermore, they displayed a gradually increasing tendency, with the 7-day cumulative mortality rate being 90% (9/10). The sepsis severity grades in ATO group, LMWH group, and ATO+LMWH group showed a significant decrease compared with sepsis group at 8 hours after operation (12.2 ± 2.0 , 11.2 ± 2.2 , 10.0 ± 1.7 vs. 16.6 ± 2.5 , all $P < 0.05$). The 7-day cumulative mortality rates in ATO group, LMWH group, and ATO+LMWH group were 60% (6/10), 60% (6/10), and 40% (4/10), respectively, all of which was significantly lower than that of sepsis group (all $P < 0.05$). ② The levels of TNF- α , IL-1 β and HMGB1 have not shown much variations in the sham group after operation; the levels of pro-inflammatory cytokines in other 4 groups were significantly increased after operation compared with those before operation; the levels of TNF- α , IL-1 β , and HMGB1 reached peak at 4, 8, and 24 hours, respectively. The levels of pro-inflammatory cytokines in sepsis group were significantly higher than those in the sham group. However, the levels of pro-inflammatory cytokines in ATO group, LMWH group, and ATO+LMWH group were significantly lower than those in sepsis group [4-hour TNF- α (ng/L): 668.3 ± 124.6 , 536.5 ± 118.5 , 496.5 ± 108.5 vs. 783.8 ± 134.7 ; 8-hour IL-1 β (ng/L): 2476.7 ± 137.8 , 2460.4 ± 171.2 , 2090.0 ± 151.2 vs. 2873.9 ± 295.6 ; 24-hour HMGB1 ($\mu\text{g/L}$): 654.4 ± 154.4 , 659.0 ± 134.6 , 609.4 ± 90.5 vs. 859.3 ± 167.5 , $P < 0.05$ or $P < 0.01$]. ③ It was showed by optical microscopy that the pulmonary tissue morphology was normal in sham group and that the damage of pulmonary pathology was relatively severe in sepsis group. Compared with sepsis group, the damage of pulmonary pathology in ATO group, LMWH group, and ATO + LMWH group was alleviated obviously, and the most obvious improvements were found in ATO + LMWH group. **Conclusions** Either ATO or LMWH could decrease sepsis severity, suppress the release of plasma pro-inflammatory cytokines at the early and late stages, alleviate the damage of pulmonary pathology, and reduce the 7-day cumulative mortality rate. Therefore, the combined treatment of sepsis using both ATO and LMWH resulted in better outcomes than implemented individually.

【Key words】 Sepsis; Cecal ligation and puncture; Atorvastatin; Low molecular weight heparin; Pro-inflammatory cytokine

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脓毒症是由炎症反应失控、凝血功能活化、免疫功能紊乱及其相互作用导致器官功能障碍的复杂过程^[1],涉及肿瘤坏死因子- α (TNF- α)^[2]、白细胞介素(IL-1 β 、IL-6)^[3]、高迁移率族蛋白B1 (HMGB1)等多种炎性细胞因子的释放^[4]。目前临床上虽然采用去除病因、液体复苏、血管活性药物、抗菌药物、免疫调节、血液滤过等脓毒症集束化治疗策略^[5],但严重脓毒症或脓毒性休克的病死率仍居高不下^[6]。有研究显示,他汀类药物可通过减轻血管内皮功能损伤、降低血管通透性,从而使脓毒症患者获益^[7];低分子肝素(LMWH)通过拮抗炎性诱发的凝血功能异常对脓毒症大鼠预后有益^[8];但两者联合应用的疗效及机制目前鲜见报道,故本研究通过观察二者对脓毒症模型大鼠炎症反应及对肺脏的保护作用,探讨其可能机制,以期为临床治疗脓毒症及降低病死率提供理论基础。

1 材料和方法

1.1 实验药品及主要试剂:阿托伐他汀(ATO,国药准字J20130129,大连辉瑞制药有限公司),LMWH(国药准字H20000096,山东齐鲁制药有限公司)。大鼠TNF- α 、IL-1 β 酶联免疫吸附试验(ELISA)试剂盒(南京凯基生物科技发展有限公司),HMGB1 ELISA试剂盒(北京万泰生物药业股份公司)。

1.2 实验动物分组及模型制备:122只健康雄性SD大鼠,体质量178~235g,购于山东大学医学院实验动物中心,合格证号:SYXK(鲁)2014-0012。采用随机数字表法将大鼠分为假手术(Sham)组($n=10$)、脓毒症组($n=10$)、ATO组($n=34$)、LMWH组($n=34$)、ATO联合LMWH组(联合组, $n=34$)。腹腔注射戊巴比妥钠麻醉大鼠,采用盲肠结扎穿孔术(CLP)制备脓毒症模型^[9],术后即刻皮下注射生理盐水(NS)30 mL/kg 抗休克;Sham组仅开腹翻动

盲肠后还纳,不结扎、穿孔,余操作相同。本实验中动物处置方法符合动物伦理学标准。

1.3 给药方法: ATO组术前用ATO 20 mg/kg加入3 mL NS制成混悬液连续灌胃5 d; LMWH组术前用淀粉30 mg/kg加入3 mL NS制成混悬液灌胃后,皮下注射LMWH 100 U/kg,连续5 d;联合组术前用ATO 20 mg/kg加入3 mL NS制成混悬液灌胃后,皮下注射LMWH 100 U/kg,连续5 d。

1.4 检测指标及方法

1.4.1 病情严重程度评分: 采用改良的评定标准进行脓毒症严重程度评分^[10]。

1.4.2 血浆炎性因子检测: 每组取6只大鼠,分别于术前(0 h)及术后4、8、12、24 h取颈静脉血,4℃离心15 min,分离血浆后于-80℃冰箱中保存备检。采用ELISA试验检测血浆TNF-α、IL-1β和HMGB1水平,操作按试剂盒说明书步骤进行。

1.4.3 肺组织病理学观察: 术后24 h取左肺标本,经中性甲醛溶液固定、常规脱水、石蜡包埋、切片,苏木素-伊红(HE)染色后光镜下观察并拍照。

1.4.4 累积死亡率: 每组取10只大鼠,观察术后7 d内的生存情况,计算7 d累积死亡率。

1.5 统计学方法: 采用SPSS 18.0软件进行统计学处理,计量资料以均数±标准差($\bar{x} \pm s$)表示,多组间比较用方差分析,组间两两比较用LSD-t检验;计数资料用 χ^2 检验;绘制Kaplan-Meier生存曲线计算累积死亡率; $P < 0.05$ 为差异有统计学意义。

2 结果

2.1 各组病情评分比较(表1): 各组术前病情严重程度评分无明显差异;脓毒症组术后评分逐渐升高,各时间点均较Sham组显著升高(均 $P < 0.05$); ATO组、LMWH组、联合组术后各时间点评分较脓毒症组明显下降,以联合组最为显著(均 $P < 0.05$)。

2.2 各组血浆炎性因子水平比较(表1): Sham组术后血浆TNF-α、IL-1β、HMGB1水平无明显变化。脓毒症组术后各炎性因子水平均逐渐升高, TNF-α于4 h、IL-1β于8 h、HMGB1于24 h达峰值,而且各炎性因子水平均显著高于同期Sham组(均 $P < 0.05$)。与脓毒症组相比, ATO组、LMWH组、联合组各炎性因子水平均明显降低,以联合组降低更为明显(均 $P < 0.05$)。

2.3 肺组织病理学改变(图1): 光镜下观察,Sham组肺泡组织形态正常;脓毒症组肺泡内可见大量炎性细胞浸润,有多发的大量肺泡内出血,肺实变严重,毛细血管淤血与微血栓形成明显; ATO组、LMWH组仍可见较多炎性细胞浸润及不同程度的肺泡内出血,肺实变较模型组减轻;联合组肺泡内有少量炎性细胞浸润,部分肺泡壁充血、增厚,轻度肺实变。

2.4 累积死亡率(图2): Sham组大鼠无死亡。脓毒症组7 d累积死亡率达90%(9/10)。 ATO组、LMWH组、联合组7 d累积死亡率分别为60%(6/10)、60%(6/10)、40%(4/10),较脓毒症组显著降低(均 $P < 0.05$)。

表1 ATO联合LMWH对脓毒症大鼠病情严重程度评分及血浆炎性因子水平变化的影响($\bar{x} \pm s$)

组别	动物数 (只)	病情严重程度评分(分)					TNF-α (ng/L)				
		术后0h	术后4h	术后8h	术后12h	术后24h	术后0h	术后4h	术后8h	术后12h	术后24h
Sham组	6	7.0±0.5	7.2±0.5	7.3±0.6	7.1±0.5	7.2±0.6	113.8±38.3	114.1±39.6	112.9±30.5	114.6±29.5	115.3±39.2
脓毒症组	6	7.0±0.5	12.2±2.0 ^a	16.6±2.5 ^a	22.8±3.0 ^b	27.2±4.0 ^b	112.2±36.9	783.8±134.7 ^b	437.9±105.6 ^b	216.8±87.3 ^a	159.3±67.6
ATO组	6	7.0±0.4	9.0±1.5	12.2±2.0 ^{ac}	16.3±2.5 ^{ac}	21.2±2.5 ^{ac}	113.8±69.5	668.3±124.6 ^{bc}	376.7±107.7 ^a	159.7±72.1 ^a	124.1±54.3
LMWH组	6	7.0±0.4	10.0±1.8	11.2±2.2 ^{ac}	17.3±2.5 ^{ac}	20.2±2.0 ^{ac}	114.9±65.8	536.5±118.5 ^{bc}	360.4±70.3 ^a	168.6±54.6 ^a	129.7±54.5
联合组	6	7.0±0.6	8.4±1.5 ^c	10.0±1.7 ^{ac}	12.2±0.8 ^{acef}	16.4±1.5 ^{hdef}	110.3±65.4	496.5±108.5 ^{bce}	324.4±72.3 ^a	148.6±50.6 ^a	122.0±34.5

组别	动物数 (只)	IL-1β (ng/L)					HMGB1 (μg/L)				
		术后0h	术后4h	术后8h	术后12h	术后24h	术后0h	术后4h	术后8h	术后12h	术后24h
Sham组	6	353.7±78.3	364.5±79.6	375.1±70.4	354.7±70.7	366.4±79.2	163.8±46.3	164.5±59.6	159.1±72.4	162.7±58.7	166.3±59.2
脓毒症组	6	387.2±66.3	489.7±64.6	2873.9±295.6 ^b	916.7±187.4 ^b	459.3±167.6	177.5±56.3	209.7±74.6	273.0±45.2	316.7±67.4 ^a	859.3±167.5 ^b
ATO组	6	372.8±69.4	478.3±74.6	2476.7±137.8 ^{bc}	809.6±100.5 ^b	414.4±99.3	162.8±69.4	208.2±64.6	276.7±57.8	309.6±70.5 ^a	654.4±154.4 ^{bc}
LMWH组	6	369.0±65.4	506.5±108.5	2460.4±171.2 ^{bc}	848.6±94.6 ^b	439.0±84.5	167.9±65.4	206.8±78.6	260.4±71.2	348.6±54.7 ^a	659.0±134.6 ^{bc}
联合组	6	359.0±70.4	478.5±90.6	2090.0±151.2 ^{hdef}	648.5±54.7 ^a	429.0±39.5	173.8±60.4	236.8±58.6	240.0±70.3	308.3±58.7 ^a	609.4±90.5 ^{hdef}

注: TNF-α为肿瘤坏死因子-α, IL-1β为白细胞介素-1β, HMGB1为高迁移率族蛋白1; 与假手术(Sham)组比较, ^a $P < 0.05$, ^b $P < 0.01$; 与脓毒症组比较, ^c $P < 0.05$, ^d $P < 0.01$; 与阿托伐他汀(ATO)组比较, ^e $P < 0.05$; 与低分子肝素(LMWH)组比较, ^f $P < 0.05$

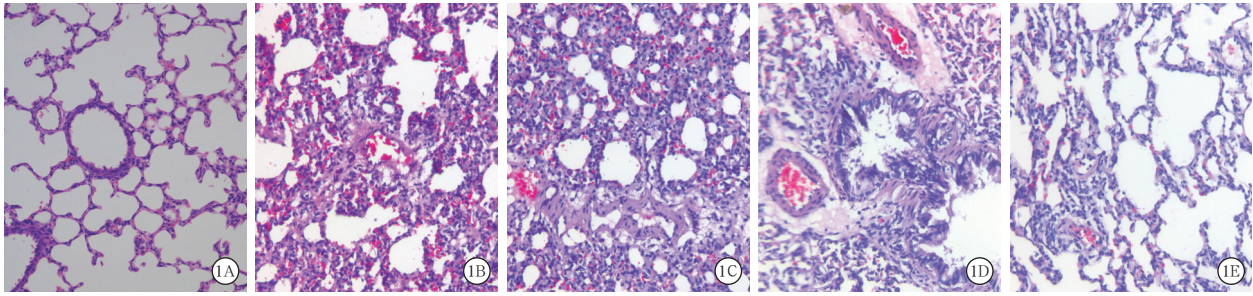
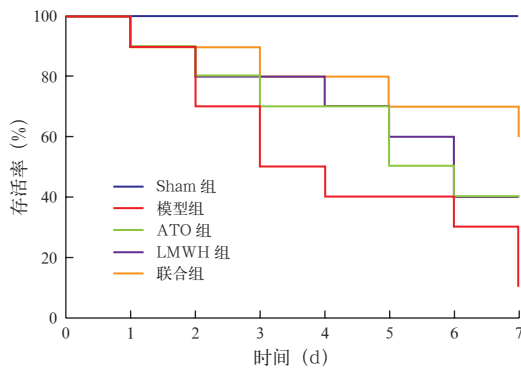


图1 光镜下观察各组大鼠术后24 h肺组织病理学改变 假手术(Sham)组(A)肺泡组织形态正常;脓毒症组(B)肺泡内可见大量炎性细胞浸润,有多发的大量肺泡内出血,毛细血管淤血与微血栓形成明显;阿托伐他汀(ATO)组(C)和低分子肝素(LMWH)组(D)肺泡内可见较多炎性细胞浸润,存在不同程度的肺泡内出血;ATO联合LMWH组(E)肺泡内可见少量炎性细胞浸润,部分肺泡壁充血、增厚,肺间质性水肿减轻 HE染色 中倍放大



注: Sham 为假手术, ATO 为阿托伐他汀, LMWH 为低分子肝素; log-rank 检验, $\chi^2=16.174, P=0.003$

图2 各组大鼠术后7 d Kaplan-Meier 生存曲线

3 讨论

研究表明,严重感染诱发的炎症反应与凝血功能改变之间有紧密联系,并且炎症反应和凝血功能改变与脓毒症的严重程度及病死率密切相关^[11]。目前认为,凝血功能紊乱、炎症反应失衡和免疫抑制是脓毒症患者高病死率的主要病理生理基础,炎症反应可激活凝血系统,高凝状态时微血栓形成造成的弥散性血管内凝血(DIC),是诱发严重脓毒症的基础,故凝血功能紊乱是脓毒症发病的重要环节^[12]。近年来虽然对人体炎症反应的病理生理有了全新的认识,拯救脓毒症的集束化方案不断更新,但严重脓毒症的病死率仍居高不下^[6]。近年来研究显示,脓毒症表现为不同阶段的炎性因子表达失控,导致多器官功能障碍^[13-14]。

脓毒症是细菌感染的严重阶段,涉及到多种炎性因子的释放, TNF- α 为脓毒症的始动因子,导致其他炎性介质“瀑布样”级联反应释放,并参与了组织和细胞的代谢过程及免疫反应,启动凝血过程,刺激单核/巨噬细胞产生 IL-1 β 、IL-6 等^[15]。模型动物感染后 1 h 血浆 TNF- α 水平即显著升高, 2 h

达高峰, 4 h 恢复至对照组水平^[16]。HMGB1 属于晚期炎性介质,主要由感染、创伤、休克等刺激引起单核细胞、巨噬细胞释放,其释放强度与 TNF- α 、IL-1 β 等呈正相关^[17]。已确认 HMGB1 是脓毒症致死效应的主要致炎因子,其水平直接影响了脓毒症的严重程度及预后^[18]。近期研究表明, HMGB1 在脓毒症过程中对促凝血功能及微血栓形成有影响,此与脓毒症过程中的炎症与凝血交叉激活过程相一致^[19]。HMGB1 表达高峰在 12~24 h,与早期炎性介质 TNF- α 、IL-1 β 、IL-6 等 6~12 h 内恢复正常相比, HMGB1 有相对宽松的治疗时间窗^[20]。

本研究结果提示,与 Sham 组相比,脓毒症组血浆中各炎性因子水平显著升高, TNF- α 在术后 4 h、IL-1 β 在术后 8 h、HMGB1 在术后 24 h 达到峰值。与脓毒症组相比, ATO 组、LMWH 组、联合组各炎性因子水平均显著降低,以联合组降低更为明显。表明 ATO 及 LMWH 可显著抑制炎性因子的释放,且二者具有协同作用。

他汀类药物除限制机体胆固醇合成外,还具有抗炎、抗凝血、免疫调节、抗氧化、稳定血管内皮等作用^[21],此效应不依赖于它的降脂作用,可用于脓毒症^[22]。Beffa 等^[23]研究显示,脓毒症模型小鼠经他汀类药物预处理后平均存活率是对照组的 4 倍;曲茂兴等^[24]研究也显示, ATO 能降低脓毒症大鼠的炎症反应,保护心、肝、肺等。炎症反应与凝血功能紊乱具有“交叉对话”,二者作为共同的始动因素在脓毒症发病过程中起到重要作用,对凝血功能紊乱的干预可能是治疗脓毒症的一个新思路^[25]。肝素与 HMGB1 的 N-末端第 6~12 个氨基酸残基结合,可改变 HMGB1 的构象,起到抑制 HMGB1 促炎活性的作用^[26]。LMWH 可通过阻断核转录因子- κ B (NF- κ B) 通路抑制炎性介质的释放,起到减轻炎症

反应的作用,这可能是 LMWH 改善重症患者预后的机制之一^[27-28]。已有研究显示, LMWH 能更好地控制脓毒症过程中的炎症反应(包括早期及晚期的炎性介质释放)以及对肺功能的保护^[29]。

肺脏作为脓毒症病理生理过程中最常受累的重要器官,主要表现为肺泡毛细血管渗透性改变及低氧。本研究显示,脓毒症大鼠经 ATO、LMWH 治疗后,脓毒症严重程度评分明显降低,二者联用效果更佳;病理观察也提示,脓毒症大鼠出现显著的肺损伤,经 ATO、LMWH 干预后肺损伤明显减轻,且二者具有协同作用;ATO 组、LMWH 组、联合组 7 d 累积死亡率也较脓毒症组显著降低。从本研究可以发现, ATO、LMWH 可以在多水平、多机制上保护和改善组织器官功能,抑制炎症反应,有效降低脓毒症大鼠的死亡率。其可能的机制为 ATO、LMWH 对早期、晚期炎性因子表达具有一定的抑制作用,从而减轻脓毒症大鼠的炎症反应。

综上, ATO、LMWH 可抑制脓毒症大鼠炎性因子释放,减轻肺部病变,降低脓毒症严重程度和死亡率,二者具有协同作用。但在临床上是否同样有效还需大样本前瞻性随机对照研究来证实。

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