

• 综述 •

载脂蛋白E基因多态性与缺血性脑卒中的相关性研究新进展

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【摘要】 脑卒中是神经内科伴严重神经功能障碍的常见疾病之一, 目前认为其发病机制是遗传和环境等多因素相互作用的结果。而载脂蛋白E(ApoE)有调节脂类代谢的作用, 可降低动脉粥样硬化的发生率, 且ApoE基因与脑卒中的发生密切相关, ApoE在体内有重要的生物学功能, 其基因多态性会引起ApoE结构与功能发生改变。目前国内外对于ApoE基因多态性与缺血性脑卒中(IS)相关性的研究结论并不统一。此外, 对于ApoE基因多态性与IS相关性的内部机制研究仍未完全明确, 联合应用基因组学与蛋白质组学技术或许可为阐释ApoE基因多态性与IS关联的分子生物学机制提供支持。现从ApoE的生物学特性及功能、ApoE基因多态性与脂质代谢和动脉粥样硬化、ApoE基因多态性与IS、ApoE与缺血后血管神经修复方面进行综述, 从而为IS的治疗提供更为科学、合理的方案。

【关键词】 缺血性脑卒中; 载脂蛋白E; 基因多态性

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Research progress in correlation between apolipoprotein E gene polymorphism and ischemic stroke

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【Abstract】 Apoplexy is one of the common diseases with severe neurological dysfunction in neurology department, and it is believed that the pathogenesis is the result of interaction of genetic and environmental factors. Apolipoprotein E (ApoE) can regulate lipid metabolism and reduce the incidence of atherosclerosis, and ApoE gene is closely related to apoplexy. ApoE has important biological functions in vivo, and its gene polymorphism can cause changes in ApoE structure and function. At present, there is no uniform conclusion about the relationship between ApoE gene polymorphism and ischemic stroke (IS) at home and abroad. In addition, the internal mechanism of ApoE gene polymorphism associated with IS is still not completely clear. The combination of genomics and proteomics technology may provide support for elucidating the molecular biological mechanism of ApoE gene polymorphism associated with IS. In this article, the biological characteristics and functions of ApoE, relationship between ApoE gene polymorphism and lipid metabolism and atherosclerosis, relationship between ApoE gene polymorphism and IS, and relationship between ApoE and vascular and neural repair after ischemia were reviewed, so as to provide more scientific and reasonable treatment for IS.

【Key words】 Ischemic stroke; Apolipoprotein E; Gene polymorphism

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脑卒中是神经内科常见疾病之一, 患者常有严重神经功能障碍的表现^[1]。脑卒中的发病机制至今尚未完全明确, 目前多认为是血管疾病、遗传以及环境等多因素相互作用的结果^[2]。在遗传因素中, 研究较多的为载脂蛋白E(ApoE)基因, 这是目前认为与脑卒中相关基因中取得研究成果最多的一类。现阶段已证明, ApoE可调节脂类代谢, 且能降低动脉粥样硬化的发生率, 但关于ApoE基因对缺血性脑卒中(IS)发生和预后的影响仍存在争议, 还需深入探究。此外亦有相关研究显示, ApoE基因的存在有利于脑缺血后血管神经的修复^[3]。现将ApoE基因多态性与IS的相关性进行综述。

1 ApoE的生物学特性及功能

ApoE是一种碱性蛋白, 含大量的精氨酸。现已证实, 人ApoE的相对分子质量为34 145 000, 由299个氨基酸残基构成^[4]。ApoE由ApoE2(Cys112Cys158)、ApoE3(Cys112Arg158)和ApoE4(Arg158Arg112)3个等位基因构成, 因此其基因型

构成可有6种, 分别为E2/E2、E2/E3、E2/E4、E3/E3、E3/E4、E4/E4。相关统计显示, ApoE最常见的等位基因为E3, 最常见的基因型为E3/E3。ApoE基因具有多态性, 对各自结构进行分析, 结果显示, ApoE2具有1个特殊的拓扑结构, 且此结构中有3个结构域, 1个易弯曲的铰链区域可将1个氨基端结构域与羧基端结构域联接在一起^[5]。ApoE3与ApoE2存在较大差异, 其三级结构中有且仅有1个构象配置, 这一结构的存在可防止脂质与其余ApoE受体结合, 从而降低ApoE5的脂化程度^[6]。其中值得注意的是, 位于ApoE4 112位点的氨基酸Arg以及ApoE2 158位点的氨基酸Cys容易发生突变, 一旦突变则将发生ApoE构象的改变, 从而进一步影响脂质与受体结合, 极易发生脂质沉积, 导致病理改变。

另外, 随着研究的进一步深入, 相关文献报告, ApoE基因不仅参与了脂类代谢, 同时也能通过多个信号通路对糖代

谢、神经形成、线粒体功能、神经元萎缩、突触功能等中枢神经系统活动进行调节,从而影响患者的认知功能^[7]。也有文献报告,ApoE4基因可能参与了快速进展性多发性硬化等疾病的发生发展^[8]。

不仅如此,有关ApoE双基因敲除小鼠后肢缺血/再灌注(I/R)的动物研究表明,小鼠在此阶段存在明显的骨骼肌愈合现象,提示ApoE基因有可能在组织损伤修复中起重要作用^[9]。近期,有学者对ApoE水平升高的患者进行了前瞻性研究,结果显示,ApoE水平升高患者罹患细菌感染、脓毒症的概率较ApoE水平正常者明显增加^[10]。

2 ApoE基因多态性与脂质代谢及动脉粥样硬化

ApoE基因在脂代谢中发挥着重要作用,目前认为此过程是通过影响低密度脂蛋白受体(LDL-R)实现的。有学者认为,ApoE基因可调节血清中脂类的分布,从而导致粥样硬化脂蛋白紊乱,并增加脑卒中发生的风险^[11]。现已证明,在脑血管病患者中,ApoE基因的存在对脂蛋白代谢进行调节是造成患者病情发生发展的重要原因之一^[12]。也有研究显示,ApoE4基因与血浆胆固醇代谢紊乱密切相关,且可以作为IS患者病情与预后判断的标准^[13]。也有研究显示,ApoE2等位基因与胆固醇水平有显著相关性^[14]。此外,ApoE2可降低膳食中脂肪的清除速度,从而增加了患者早期血管疾病发生的风险。由此可知,ApoE2虽然在一定程度上能增加血清胆固醇的水平,但其也能降低血浆低密度脂蛋白(LDL)水平,从而降低动脉粥样硬化发生的概率^[15]。

3 ApoE基因多态性与IS

目前,我国已进入人口老龄化阶段,人口结构的改变也使脑卒中的发病率逐年升高,而生活习惯与饮食结构的改变也导致脑卒中的发病呈逐渐年轻化趋势。目前脑卒中已经成为我国最常见的致死性疾病之一,仅次于心脏疾病与癌症,脑卒中可严重影响患者的生存质量,缩短患者生存时间^[16]。相关流行病学调查显示,脑卒中已经成为我国城市居民死亡的主要原因^[17]。目前临幊上根据发病原因不同可将脑卒中分为IS与出血性脑卒中(HS),其中IS更为多见,约占82%^[18]。IS也被称为脑梗死,其发病原因为患者长期脑部血液循环障碍,脑组织缺血、缺氧而导致脑梗死的发生^[19]。随着分子生物学和遗传学的发展,有学者进行了IS的发病与基因多态性关系的研究,ApoE成为研究热点,被认为是与IS发病相关性最高的基因。

一项有关中国汉族人群ApoE基因多态性的研究显示,与E3/E3基因型携带者比较,E4/E4基因型携带者发生脑梗死的风险可增加2.0~2.5倍^[20]。亦有相关学者对长期吸烟人群ApoE基因多态性与IS发病情况进行研究,结果显示,在环境因素的协同作用下,E3/E4基因型携带者发生IS的概率明显高于E3/E3基因型^[21]。与此同时,一项对北方汉族人ApoE基因多态性与高血压发病率的相关性研究显示,携带E3/E4等位基因的患者IS发病风险显著增高^[22],提示相较于E3,E4基因的存在与IS的发病关联性较大^[23]。随着研究的进一步深入,有学者以血管性痴呆患者为研究对象,对大脑内皮细胞中ApoE4基因累积进行观察,结果显示,

血管性痴呆患者大脑内皮细胞中存在大量毒性ApoE4基因,这也是脑血管功能受损的重要原因之一。由此可见,ApoE4基因可能通过激活大脑内炎症水平从而对脑血管造成损伤。同时,亦有学者将IS患者进一步划分为脑栓塞和腔隙性梗死,并与ApoE基因进行相关性分析,结果显示,两种亚型与ApoE均密切相关。Zhao等^[24]对缺血性脑血管疾病患者进行基因型鉴定,结果显示,腔隙性脑梗死患者的发病与E3/E4基因型显著相关。Chen等^[25]研究显示,E3/E4基因型与大动脉粥样硬化性IS无明显相关性。与此结论不同的是,一项研究对男性颅内段小动脉粥样硬化患者进行E3/E4基因型检测,结果显示,携带E3/E4基因患者数明显高于E3/E3^[26]。而另一项研究对ApoE2、ApoE4与动脉粥样硬化的关系进行研究,结果显示,E2携带者更容易发生脑出血、脑栓塞等疾病,而E4携带者更容易发生蛛网膜下腔出血和动脉粥样硬化血栓形成等疾病^[27]。

为进一步研究ApoE基因型与IS间的关系,有学者对E3/E4、E2/E3基因型患者体内血清胆固醇水平进行测定,结果显示,基因型对血清胆固醇的影响具有性别差异,男性E3/E4携带者与女性E2/E3携带者血清胆固醇水平明显升高,血脂代谢紊乱明显,从而导致IS病死率的增加^[28]。此外,Wang等^[29]以亚洲印第安人为研究对象,将IS患者年龄、脂代谢指标、是否患有高血压、E4等位基因与健康人群进行比较,结果显示,胆固醇、年龄、E4等位基因是IS发生发展的预测因子。与此同时,Zhang等^[30]研究了IS与E4等位基因、LDL间的关系,此研究以大动脉粥样硬化、小动脉闭塞患者为研究对象,结果显示ApoE基因型分布与LDL水平无明显差异。与此研究结果不同的是,Khan等^[31]研究发现,E2等位基因携带者的LDL水平明显低于E3、E4等位基因携带者,而后两者间无显著性差异。由此可见,ApoE2可能是IS、大动脉粥样硬化的保护因子,而ApoE3/4作用尚不能明确。一项Meta分析结果显示,E4等位基因携带者仅在脑出血发病率上高于未携带者^[32]。究其原因,可能与中国少数民族众多有关,种族与性别的不同导致了ApoE基因多态性对IS发病影响的差异性。

4 ApoE与缺血后血管神经修复

IS患者最常见的临床症状为神经功能损伤的表现,有学者对IS患者的认知功能进行研究,结果显示,ApoE基因可能有一定的神经损伤修复能力^[33]。另外也动物实验给IS模型小鼠脑室内注射ApoE,结果显示,IS小鼠急性神经损伤明显减轻^[34]。此外,目前已证实,ApoE多态性可延缓动脉粥样硬化的发生发展,但其机制仍未阐明。有学者认为ApoE可能是通过载有ApoE的高密度脂蛋白(HDL)来调节细胞外基质的基因表达水平从而影响动脉壁的弹性^[35]。这一假设的提出重新审视了ApoE基因的作用,在脑血管疾病中,ApoE通过与载有ApoE的HDL作用可保护血管壁弹性,防止动脉粥样硬化的发生发展。而与此一致的是,一项有关慢性缺血性粥样硬化的研究显示,生存期长的患者中ApoE2等位基因频率远远高于生存期短的患者,这一研究同时也可证明,E2基因型可能参与了神经缺血后的修复过程^[36]。

5 总结与展望

综上所述,虽然目前已被证实 ApoE 基因与 IS 的发病有密切相关性,但 ApoE 基因型与 IS 的关系更具有临床价值,因而还需要进行多中心、大样本研究进一步阐明易感基因型与 IS 间的关系。同时,应利用分子生物学方法研究 IS 的保护基因,从而为 IS 的治疗提供更为科学、合理、经济的方案。此外,Apoe 基因对脑缺血后神经、血管的修复机制仍需要进一步证实,可能会成为 IS 预后的评估标准之一。

利益冲突 所有作者均声明不存在利益冲突

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