

肾性贫血和铁代谢的研究进展

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摘 要

肾性贫血是慢性肾功能不全发展到终末期肾脏病常见的并发症之一, 会导致患者机体功能受损和生活质量下降, 同时增加慢性肾脏病(chronic kidney disease, CKD)患者的死亡风险。铁代谢平衡对维持机体正常生理功能至关重要, 铁稳态失衡是导致CKD患者绝对或功能性缺铁性贫血的一个重要原因。本文将就近年来肾性贫血的诊断与治疗目标、铁代谢、铁调素和肾性贫血药物治疗的研究进展作一综述。

关键词

慢性肾脏病, 肾性贫血, 铁代谢, 铁调素

Research Progress of Renal Anemia and Iron Metabolism

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Abstract

Renal anemia is one of the common complications of chronic renal insufficiency to end-stage renal disease, which will lead to impaired body function and decreased quality of life, and increase the risk of death in patients with chronic kidney disease. Iron metabolism balance is crucial to maintain normal physiological functions of the body, and iron homeostasis imbalance is an important cause of absolute or functional iron deficiency anemia in patients with CKD. This article will re-

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view the diagnosis and treatment of renal anemia, iron metabolism, hepcidin and drug therapy of renal anemia in recent years.

Keywords

Chronic Kidney Disease, Renal Anemia, Iron Metabolism, Hpcidin

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1. 前言

慢性肾脏病(chronic kidney disease, CKD)是一个重大的公共健康卫生问题。据估计, CKD 全球患病率约为 8%~16%, 其发病率逐年升高[1]。贫血是 CKD 患者最常见的并发症之一, 我国非透析 CKD 患者贫血患病率高达 72.0%, 透析患者贫血患病率高达 98.2% [2]。造成众多 CKD 患者贫血的主要原因是内源性促红细胞生成素(EPO)缺乏, 而铁代谢异常亦是一个主要因素[3]。其治疗也从基于给药促红细胞生成素(erythropoiesis stimulating agents, ESAs)转向调节铁代谢。

2. 肾性贫血的诊断与治疗目标

肾性贫血指由于肾功能受损, 尤其是患者肾小球滤过率低于 30 ml/min 或血清肌酐浓度高于 300 $\mu\text{mol/L}$ 且血红蛋白降低时出现的正细胞正色素性、增生低下性贫血[4]。诊断标准同世界卫生组织(WHO)推荐: 居住海平面地区的成年人, 男性 Hb < 130 g/L, 非妊娠女性 Hb < 120 g/L, 妊娠女性 Hb < 110 g/L, 可诊断贫血; 还应考虑患者年龄、种族、居住地的海拔高度对 Hb 的影响[2]。目前临床上关于 CKD 贫血患者治疗 Hb 目标值尚无明确定论, 指南推荐 Hb 的下限为 110 g/L, 上限不超过 130 g/L, 以达到贫血治疗的最大获益, 并尽可能减少其不良反应[2]。

3. 铁代谢

铁是人体新陈代谢的重要元素, 铁代谢平衡是维持机体正常生理功能的一个重要因素。铁的吸收部位主要位于十二指肠和空肠上端, 其吸收量主要取决于体内铁的储存量以及红细胞生成速度。吸收入血的二价铁经氧化后与血浆中的转铁蛋白结合, 运转到铁利用和储存的场所。幼红细胞和网织红细胞膜上有丰富的转铁蛋白受体, 与转铁蛋白结合后形成受体-转铁蛋白复合物, 通过细胞的胞饮作用进入胞质中将铁释放, 参与形成血红蛋白。多余的铁则以铁蛋白和含铁血黄素形式贮存于肝、脾等器官的单核-巨噬细胞系统中, 待需要增加时动用。

正常情况下, 体内铁处于进出平衡状态, 铁除了是构成血红蛋白必不可少的成分外, 还参与氧化还原反应, 在细胞呼吸、氧气运输和储存、多种酶的合成中起着重要的作用, 也与炎症调节息息相关[5]。铁缺乏会影响机体的正常生理功能, 而铁过载会产生过多自由基, 氧化应激导致甲状腺、心脏等多种器官的损伤[5]。铁缺乏以及铁过载都将对机体产生不利的影响, 维持铁稳态对机体至关重要。

CKD 患者铁稳态失衡主要是因为铁吸收减少、丢失增多、消耗增加和铁利用障碍[6]。绝对性铁缺乏表现为骨髓、肝脏、脾脏中铁储存量严重减少或无铁储存, 血清铁蛋白和转铁蛋白饱和度均明显降低, 其主要原因是铁吸收减少、丢失与消耗过多, 可通过补充铁缓解[5] [6]。功能性缺铁则表现为全身总铁量

正常或增加,但是无法与红细胞前体细胞结合,转铁蛋白饱和度降低,即铁利用障碍,铁在网状内皮系统滞留而无法供给红细胞生成所需,铁调素是其主要调节剂[5][6][7]。

4. 铁调素

铁调素(hepcidin)是一种由肝合成并分泌的富含半胱氨酸的抗菌多肽,2000年由 Krause 等人于人血浆中将其分离出来[8],2001年由 Park 等人在研究人体体液的抗微生物特性时从尿液中分离纯化出来[9]。人类 Hepsidin 分子是由 8 个半胱氨酸残基组成的单一发夹结构,它的 2 个臂由 4 个二硫键连接形成 1 个梯样构型,其中 1 个二硫键于发夹状结构转弯处与其附近的 2 个半胱氨酸相连接[10]。铁调素主要有 3 种形式: Hepsidin-20、Hepsidin-22、Hepsidin-25,其中 Hepsidin-25 为主要形式并起调节铁代谢作用。铁调素作用于与肠上皮细胞、肝细胞、巨噬细胞膜表面的铁转运蛋白,使其内化降解,铁从细胞内转出受阻[11]。机体铁过载时, Hepsidin 表达增加,结合铁转运蛋白,促使其在溶酶体中内化降解,从而有效阻止细胞内铁的排出,以维持内环境中铁稳态。相反,当铁缺乏时, Hepsidin 表达减少,允许细胞内大部分的铁通过铁转运蛋白流出,维持机体铁稳态,负性调节铁代谢[12]。

铁状态可以直接影响铁调素的表达。肝脏铁储备与血循环中转铁蛋白饱和度的双重效应激活 BMP6-HJV-SMAD 信号通路诱导铁调素基因的转录,上调铁调素水平[13]。Uehata 等人对 505 例非透析 CKD 患者的横断面研究发现:铁调素水平与铁蛋白浓度呈正相关关系;而在铁充足的情况下,即高铁蛋白组,铁调素水平与 Hb 浓度成负相关关系,表明铁利用发生障碍,铁状态直接关系到铁调素的表达[14]。对于 CKD 患者来说,若处在正常铁状态或功能性铁缺乏的情况下,铁调素表达会相应提高,若处在绝对性铁缺乏的情况下,铁调素表达会相应降低。

大多数 CKD 患者存在微炎症状态,微炎症可以使 EPO 减少、红系祖细胞增殖分化受损,还会导致红细胞存活率下降。炎症细胞因子 IL-1、IL-6、干扰素 γ 、激活素 B 等会导致铁调素病理性增加[15],减少铁の利用。IL-6 通过 JAK/STAT3 信号通路发挥作用,IL-6 与其受体结合激活 Janus 激酶(Janus kinase, JAKs),使 STAT3 磷酸化,磷酸化后的 STAT 蛋白进入细胞核,与铁调素基因启动子相结合,从而促进其表达[16]。IL-6-JAK-STAT3 信号通路和 BMP6-HJV-SMAD 信号通路的表达存在相互影响,但这些通路之间的相互作用尚不明确。炎症状态较轻时,干扰素 γ 与 IL-1 在早期诱导铁调素表达时起关键作用[17]。激活素 B 作为一种炎性细胞因子能通过 BMP/SMAD 信号激活铁调素基因的表达[18],而 IL-1 不仅可以刺激 BMP/SMAD 信号传导[19],还可以通过诱导 C/EBP (CCAT 增强子结合蛋白)增强铁调素转录,炎症相关的内质网应激可通过 SMAD1/5/8 和 CREB/CREBH (cAMP 反应元件结合蛋白)激活铁调素启动子活性[20]。

血清铁调素浓度随肾功能恶化逐步升高[21]。在患者肾功能正常的情况下,铁调素可以像 β_2 微球蛋白一样,从肾小球自由滤过,后在近端小管被重吸收、降解,未被降解的铁调素则随尿液排出,每日的排泄量与血浆铁调素浓度成正比;慢性肾功能不全患者因肾脏排尿量减少会导致铁调素排泄降低,循环铁调素升高[22]。有研究表明:在排除炎症影响后,CKD 患者血清铁调素浓度与 eGFR 呈负相关[23]。

氧含量是铁调素表达的独立保护性因素,缺氧会抑制铁调素的生成,从而增加铁的生物利用度[24]。肾脏内负责调节生成 EPO 的氧感应机制存在于肾脏 EPO 生成细胞,主要涉及 HIF 通路与 PHD 系统。对于健康个体,机体氧气充足的情况下,PHD 迅速羟化 HIF- α 致其降解;而在机体低氧环境下,羟化反应受阻,HIF- α 水平升高,进入细胞核后与 HIF- β 结合,激活 HIF 通路并导致靶基因转录,HIF 通路的激活不仅可以导致 EPO 生成增加进而刺激红细胞生成,还可以通过血小板源性生长因子降解可溶性铁调素调节蛋白(一种铁调素正性调节蛋白)进而抑制铁调素的产生,改善铁的吸收与转运,增加铁的生物利用[25][26][27]。

EPO 对于铁调素的表达也是一个不可或缺的重要影响因素, 红细胞生成增加引起铁的需求剧增可抑制铁调素的表达, 同时, 生长分化因子-15 和原肠形成蛋白通过抑制 BMP/SMAD 信号传导来抑制铁调素的表达。有研究表明, 失血或注射 EPO 等刺激红细胞生成的因素可促使骨髓中的有核红细胞增殖并分泌一种糖蛋白类激素 Erythroferrone (ERFF), ERFF 可直接作用于肝脏, 抑制 EPO 介导的铁调素的表达, 从而增加铁的吸收及储备铁的释放利用[28], 以满足正常成熟红细胞生成所需。

维生素 D 也是铁调素的调节因子。有研究表明, 1,25-二羟维生素 D 与其受体结合后, 直接影响铁调素启动子, 抑制铁调素基因转录, 下调铁调素水平, 同时伴有铁蛋白的下降及转铁蛋白的升高[29]。

5. 肾性贫血药物治疗

1989 年, 促红细胞生成素(ESAs)用于治疗 CKD 贫血, 开启了 CKD 贫血治疗的新纪元, 目前 ESAs 十铁剂治疗已经成为治疗肾性贫血的主要手段。对于绝对性铁缺乏 CKD 患者, 治疗效果十分显著; 然而对于功能性铁缺乏 CKD 患者, 疗效欠佳。缺氧诱导因子-脯氨酰羟化酶抑制剂(Hypoxia inducible factor prolyl hydroxylase inhibitor, HIF-PHIs)的问世为此类 CKD 贫血患者带来了福音。

HIF-PHIs 可以抑制 HIF- α 亚基中的脯氨酸结构域发生羟化, 避免 HIF- α 羟化后与希佩尔林道肿瘤抑制因子(von Hippel-Lindau tumor suppressor, pVHL)结合, 进而被泛素 E3 连接酶复合体识别, 通过泛素-蛋白酶体途径降解, 发挥着稳定 HIF- α 的作用, 后者可与 HIF- β 发生异二聚化形成稳定分子, 该分子与靶基因的低氧反应元件(hypoxia response element, HRE)结合, 激活 EPO 的转录[30]。HIF-PHIs 不仅可从转录水平上增加 EPO 的生成, 还可以改善铁代谢水平[31]。而人体中的脯氨酸羟化酶有 3 种同源形式: 脯氨酸羟化酶-1, 脯氨酸羟化酶-2, 脯氨酸羟化酶 3 [32]。

罗沙司他(roxadustat)是我国及日本首个获批的口服 HIF-PHI, 对 3 种脯氨酸羟化酶均有抑制作用, 可以模拟生理性低氧反应, 促进内源性 EPO 的生成, 疗效与 ESAs 相当, 还可以降低铁调素水平, 增加铁の利用, 减少铁剂的使用。口服给药更加便利, 而且其疗效与剂量不受炎症状态的影响, 同时还可以降低患者的胆固醇水平[33]。III 期临床研究表明: 罗沙司他可显著纠正透析或非透析 CKD 患者的血红蛋白的水平, 达标率较高, 为 CKD 贫血患者的治疗提供了新的选择[34] [35]。

达普司他(daprodustat)、伐达司他(vadadustat)和 enarodustat 是 HIF-PHI 的新成员, 其 III 期临床实验圆满完成, 疗效和安全性进一步得到验证, 2020 年已在日本获批用于肾性贫血的治疗[36] [37] [38] [39]。达普司他也可以抑制 3 种脯氨酸羟化酶, 对脯氨酸羟化酶-1 和脯氨酸羟化酶-2 特异性更高, 基于心血管事件发生的风险, 专家更偏向于其应用于透析依赖的 CKD 贫血患者[40] [41]。莫利度他(molidustat)于 2021 年获得 PMDA 批准, 目前有关其治疗非透析依赖的 CKD 贫血正在进行 III 期临床试验[42] [43]。另有 2 种较新的药物: desidustat 处于临床研发阶段, JNJ-429045343 则处于临床前研发阶段[44]。

此外, 拮抗铁调素的治疗如 BMP6-HJV-SMAD 抑制剂、IL-6/STAT3 抑制剂、铁调素肽中和剂和铁转运蛋白激动剂的稳定剂等, 均处于研发阶段。针对骨髓造血的激活素配体结合剂也是目前科学家研究的新方向。激活素是转换生长因子 β 超家族的一员, 与其受体 ActRI/ActRII 结合后, 通过激活 Smad 信号通路发挥作用, 增强骨髓中红系祖细胞和混合系祖细胞的形成, 诱导未成熟红系祖细胞向成熟的红细胞分化。而激活素配体结合剂为人类糖基化二聚体融合蛋白, 与激活素受体结合后可以发挥类似“激活素”的作用, 目前临床研发的有 2 种新药: Sotatercept 和 Luspatercept [45] [46]。

6. 结论与展望

肾性贫血在 CKD 患者中越来越常见, 铁调素作为一种负向调节铁代谢的激素, 受铁含量、炎症、氧含量和 EPO 等多种因素影响, 在肾性贫血发生、发展中扮演着重要角色。目前, 肾性贫血的治疗趋于多

元化, 新的治疗手段值得期待, 针对铁贮量方面的研究是科学家研究的新方向, 未来有望成为治疗贫血的有效手段, 并为 CKD 贫血患者提供更多治疗选择。

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