

抗甲状腺药物治疗Graves病复发影响因素的研究进展

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摘 要

Graves病(Graves Disease, GD)是常见的自身免疫性疾病(Autoimmune thyroid disease, AITD), 目前尚无针对病因的治疗方法。通常情况下, 抗甲状腺药物治疗(Antithyroid drugs, ATD)仍然使我国首选的治疗措施, 但停药后复发风险高。GD多次复发不仅影响患者的工作和生活, 也给临床医生的治疗带来挑战, 因此明确影响复发的因素至关重要, 有助于为治疗提供更精准的指导。本文就ATD治疗后GD复发的影响因素进行综述。

关键词

Graves病, 自身免疫性甲状腺疾病, 抗甲状腺药物治疗, 复发

Research Progress on Influencing Factors of Graves' Disease Recurrence Treated with Antithyroid Drugs

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Abstract

Graves Disease (GD) is a common Autoimmune thyroid disease (AITD), which currently has no

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treatment for the cause. Usually, Antithyroid drugs (ATD) remain the preferred treatment in China, but the risk of recurrence is high after withdrawal. Repeated recurrence of GD not only affects patients' work and life, but also brings challenges to the treatment of clinicians. Therefore, it is crucial to identify the factors affecting recurrence, which helps to provide more accurate guidance for treatment. This article reviews the factors affecting GD recurrence after ATD treatment.

Keywords

Graves Disease, Autoimmune Thyroid Diseases, Antithyroid Drugs Therapy, Recurrence

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1. 引言

甲状腺功能亢进症(Hyperthyroidism, 简称: 甲亢)是指甲状腺自主合成和分泌甲状腺激素过多所致的甲状腺毒症, 其中 80%由 Graves 病(Graves Disease, GD)引起。GD 是一种自身免疫性甲状腺疾病(Autoimmune thyroid disease, AITD), 其发病与遗传、环境等因素有关。根据国内外指南, 目前针对 GD 的治疗方法有 3 种: 抗甲状腺药物治疗(Antithyroid drugs, ATD)、碘 131 治疗以及手术切除治疗。理想的治疗目标是将甲状腺激素水平维持在正常范围, 同时避免甲亢的复发, 然而, 无论是哪种治疗方法都有其利和弊, 且存在一定的复发率。ATD 治疗后的复发率约为 52%~53%, 碘 131 治疗后的复发率约为 8%~15%, 手术治疗后的复发率约为 0%~10% [1]。对 GD 的首选治疗方式因地域偏好不同而异, 目前 ATD 仍然是我国治疗 GD 的一线治疗, 具有方便、不破坏甲状腺组织(安全)的优点, 但停药后的高复发率是其最大的缺点[2]。导致 GD 复发的因素很多, 因此, 本文对现有的研究进行归纳总结, 分析影响 GD 复发的因素, 有助于为临床治疗提供参考。

2. 非遗传因素

2.1. 年龄

GD 可发生于任何年龄, 主要好发年龄为 30~60 岁之间, 60 岁以后 GD 的患病率明显下降。衰老过程在 GD 的病理生理学上具有复杂的作用, 一项前瞻性研究发现, 年轻患者较老年患者相比, 复发风险增大[3]。同样, Allahabadia [4]等人通过对 536 名 Graves 甲亢患者的回顾性研究发现, 发病年龄是 ATD 治疗失败的显著预测因素, 40 岁以下的患者更有可能在药物治疗后不能得到长期缓解。Suzuki [5]等研究发现, 甲亢的严重程度随着年龄的增长而降低, 但其预后不受年龄影响, 原因可能是开始治疗后疾病的严重程度会受到环境因素的影响。Tristan [6]等进行的随机效应荟萃分析也发现, 参与者的年龄与 GD 的复发没有相关性。中国的一项纳入了 133 例甲亢患者的研究也发现, 年龄在复发组和缓解组之间无统计学意义[7]。综上, 年龄与药物治疗后 GD 复发的相关性目前尚未达成共识, 还需要行进一步的相关研究。

2.2. 性别

女性是 GD 患者中的主要发病人群, 女性的患病率是男性的 4~7 倍。一项队列研究显示, 男性与 ATD 治疗失败具有显著相关性, 并且男性在药物治疗后效果更差, 缓解率只有 19.6%, 而女性缓解率有 40% [4]。一项包含了 294 例首次诊断 GD 患者的回顾性研究发现, 男性是 GD 复发的独立危险因素, 在 ATD 停用

1年内以及5年随访时间内, 男性甲亢的复发率明显高于女性[8]。而另一项纳入了54项试验、7595例参与者的系统评价及Meta分析则发现, 性别与停止ATD治疗后甲亢的复发没有显著相关性[6]。Tun [9]等也得出了相同的结论。因此, 性别与药物治疗后GD复发风险的关系仍有待验证。

2.3. 吸烟

吸烟是很多疾病发病和预后的重要危险因素。吸烟可影响甲状腺的免疫状态, 进而增加AITD的风险和严重程度, 尤其是GD [10]。Kim [11]等人研究显示, 与不吸烟患者相比, 吸烟患者GD的发病风险增加(HR = 1.4)。2013年的一项研究发现, 吸烟是GD复发的一个强有力预测指标[12]。一项双盲前瞻性随机研究发现, 吸烟是ATD治疗后甲亢复发的独立危险因素[13]。Quadbeck [14]等人的研究也发现, 吸烟患者的复发率明显高于非吸烟者。而来自瑞典北部的一项观察性回顾性研究发现, 既往吸烟者5年后的GD缓解率高于当前吸烟者或非吸烟者(85.7% vs 55.8% vs 50.5%), 表示既往吸烟可以防止GD复发, 但是当前吸烟并不能预测疾病的复发。这一保护作用值得进一步研究[15]。总之, 吸烟是Graves甲亢的危险因素, 作为一个明确的可控因素, 建议患者应尽早戒烟。

2.4. 压力

导致GD发病的因素有很多, 其中压力也被认为是其发病的重要因素。早在1825年, 应激性生活事件与GD发病之间的关系就被首次报道[16]。2015年的一项前瞻性研究共纳入了58名GD患者, 他们接受ATD治疗, 并在停药后随访至少5年, 然后将患者分为缓解组、恶化组和复发组三组。最终结果显示, 所有经历过病情加重或复发的患者都有经历过压力事件, 并且压力事件的发生总数与患者的复发次数显著相关($P < 0.001$) [17]。而Ceyhan [18]等人的研究也发现, GD患者中负面生活事件的发生数量明显高于健康对照组。Xander [19]等研究报道, 与年龄一样, 压力也被认为是GD病情严重程度的主要决定因素。因此, 虽然压力触发GD的机制目前尚不清楚, 但可以知道的是, 压力的管理可以有效的减少疾病的复发。

2.5. 失眠

Weng [20]等人的研究表明, GD发病时出现失眠与停药后较高的复发风险相关, 通过调整混杂因素后发现失眠仍具有显著相关性, 复发风险大约为3倍, 具体机制尚不清楚, 但表明了睡眠质量的恢复对人体的神经免疫系统的重要性。一项对300名患者进行的为期6年的前瞻性研究显示[21], 积极的应对方式和社会支持有利于改善GD患者的康复。然而, 目前相关的研究较少, 有待更多的研究进一步的验证改善睡眠质量对GD复发的影响。

2.6. 甲状腺肿

甲状腺肿是Graves甲亢常见的临床表现之一。一项队列研究发现, 较大的甲状腺肿与ATD治疗失败具有显著相关性, 虽然在考虑到年龄和性别的差异后, 这种相关性变得并不显著[4]。Liu [7]等进行的一项前瞻性研究表明, 甲状腺肿的大小是药物治疗后甲亢复发的危险因素, 停药时甲状腺更肿大的患者复发率更高, 但诊断时较大的甲状腺肿和较高的复发率之间没有显著统计学差异。台湾的一项前瞻性研究也证实了这一结论[12]。来自南京的一项系统评价和荟萃分析也发现, GD诊断时甲状腺肿大或甲状腺体积增大是ATD治疗后复发的危险因素[22]。

2.7. 促甲状腺激素受体抗体(TSH Receptor Antibody, TRAb)

TRAb是GD的特征性自身抗体, 其通过激活TSH受体, 刺激甲状腺细胞, 导致甲状腺激素产生过

量, 从而引起甲亢。TRAb 对 GD 的诊断具有较高的敏感性和特异性, 也常作为 ATD 治疗停药和预测复发的指标。英国的一项前瞻性队列研究发现, GD 诊断时的 TRAb 水平与循环中甲状腺激素和复发风险呈正相关, 该研究还发现年龄可以影响 TRAb 对甲状腺功能和复发风险的影响, 这种风险与年轻患者有关, 而与老年患者无关[3]。一项观察性研究通过随访观察初诊 GD 患者停止硫酰胺类药物治疗后四年内 GD 的复发情况, 发现 GD 诊断时以及停止 ATD 治疗时的 TRAb 高滴度与较高的复发风险相关[9]。Li [23] 等人的研究也得到了相同的结论。Cappelli [24] 等人进行的一项为期 120 个月的前瞻性研究报道, TRAb 滴度在甲亢诊断时、ATD 治疗 6 个月时或在 6 个月时的下降率和 ATD 治疗停药时甲亢预后的预测因子。故 TRAb 是药物治疗后 GD 复发的重要影响因素之一。

2.8. 药物治疗方案

ATD 治疗是我国甲亢首选的治疗方法, 目前常用的 ATD 方案有两种: 滴定法、阻断 - 替代法[25] [26]。滴定法是指 ATD 的剂量随着时间改变逐渐被调整至维持甲状腺功能正常状态的最小剂量。阻断替代法是使用高剂量的 ATD 同时联合替代剂量的左旋甲状腺素。一项纳入了 20 项研究共 3242 例患者的荟萃分析发现, 阻断替代方案停药后 GD 复发率比滴定方案低, 而 ATD 治疗的时间与复发率之间没有相关性[22]。Razvi [27] 等的研究认为, 阻断替代方案是治疗 Graves 病的首选治疗方法, 尤其是对于患有甲状腺眼病、治疗期间甲状腺功能波动以及无法定期进行血液检测的患者。但 Vaidya [28] 等人进行的一项针对 450 名 GD 患者的回顾性观察研究发现, 没有证据表明阻断替代方案能使患者甲状腺功能更稳定。且 2010 年的一项系统回顾显示, 阻断替代方案和滴定方案两组的复发率相似, 且滴定方案的副作用更少[25], 同时, 来自英国的一项队列研究表明, 药物治疗失败率在阻断替代组明显高于滴定组, 分别为 46.8%、29.9% [29]。因此, 具体选择哪种治疗药物治疗方案应根据患者情况个体化制定。

2.9. 甲状腺功能

甲状腺激素(Thyroid hormone, TH)主要由三碘甲腺原氨酸(Triiodothyronine, T3)和四碘甲腺原氨酸(Tetraiodothyronine, T4)组成, 其中 T3 是生物活性形式, 且 TH 的水平与 GD 的病情发展和预后存在一定关系。研究发现, 高水平的 TH 是甲亢复发的独立危险因素[6] [30]。Liu [31] 等研究表明, 高水平的 TH 通过 B 细胞激活因子的过度表达促进 GD 的复发, 并且发现 GD 患者的血清 B 细胞激活因子的水平与 FT3、FT4 以及 TRAb 水平呈正相关。来自 2021 年的一篇系统综述发现, ATD 停药 4 周后低 TSH 水平与 GD 患者较高的复发率有关, 提示在 ATD 停药后的短时间内测量 TSH 水平对预测 GD 的短期复发可能具有重要意义[32]。一项长期随访的前瞻性随机临床试验, 通过评估第二次 ATD 治疗后的长期缓解率发现, 治疗停药时 TSH 正常参考范围高值或轻度升高时, 复发的风险比降低[33]。一项 Meta 分析报道, GD 诊断时 FT3 或 FT4 水平较高, 停药后的复发率越高[22]。多个研究也得到了相同的结论[24] [34]。并且 Park [35] 等研究显示, ATD 停药时较低的 T3/FT4 比值与 ATD 治疗后较低的 GD 复发率独立相关。但也有研究表明, FT3 或 FT4 水平并不能预测 ATD 治疗后 GD 的复发[9] [15]。

2.10. 维生素 D

维生素 D 是一种类固醇激素, 其主要作用是调节骨骼代谢并维持体内钙、磷的平衡[36]。目前, 维生素 D 的免疫调节作用已被证实, 许多研究报道了维生素 D 缺乏与不同的自身免疫性疾病之间的相关性, 包括甲状腺自身免疫性疾病[37], 而维生素 D 与 AITD 之间的联系仍存在争议。GD 是常见的 AITD, 多个研究发现, GD 患者中维生素 D 水平较低[38] [39] [40]。Yasuda [41] 等人观察到, 与正常人群和 GD 缓解患者相比, 未缓解组 GD 患者血清 25(OH)D 显著降低(18.6 ± 5.3 vs 18.2 ± 5.1 vs 14.5 ± 2.9 ng/ml, $P < 0.0005$)。也有研究不支持这一结论[42]。但是, 2015 年的两项荟萃分析表明, 维生素 D 缺乏是 GD 的危

险因素[43] [44]。Ahn [34]等人随访了 143 名接受 ATD 治疗的 GD 患者停药 1 年后复发情况, 研究进一步发现, 低水平的血清 25(OH)D 与更高的 GD 复发率相关, 血清 25(OH)D 可能是预测 ATD 治疗停药后 GD 复发的独立危险因素。Cho [45]等人的研究表明, 补充维生素 D 并不能防止 GD 的复发, 但当补充维生素 D 达到适当的水平时, 患者的复发被推迟。

3. 遗传因素

大多数研究表明, GD 是由于遗传和非遗传因素之间的复杂相互作用, 导致甲状腺抗原的免疫耐受丧失, 引发持续的自身免疫反应。其中遗传因素占主导作用, 对双胞胎的一项队列研究表明, 遗传因素对 GD 的贡献可高达 80% [46]。非遗传因素在诱发遗传易感个体起病中也发挥一定作用。一些免疫调节基因被发现参与了 GD 的发展, 包括人类白细胞抗原(Human leukocyte antigen, HLA)、CD40、细胞毒性 T 淋巴细胞相关因子 4(Cytotoxic T-lymphocyte-associated factor 4, CTLA-4)、非受体型蛋白酪氨酸磷酸酶 22 (Protein tyrosine phosphatase, non-receptor type 22, PTPN22)和 Fc 受体样蛋白 3 (Fc receptor-like protein, FCRL3) [47]。HLA 复合体位于 6 号染色体断臂上, 主要分为三类: I 类、II 类、III 类。HLA 基因具有高度多态性, 因此成为疾病易感性的候选基因。一项来自白种人的前瞻性队列研究发现, HLA 的亚型 DRB1*03、DQA1*05 和 DQB1*02 是 GD 复发的强预测因子[48]。然而, 另一项关于白种人的研究没有观察到 HLA DQA1*05 与 GD 复发之间的相关性[49]。导致这一结果不一致的原因可能是研究规模大小不同以及随访时间不同。

在易感基因中, CD40 和 CTLA-4 基因被认为参与 GD 的发展[50] [51] [52]。CD40 是肿瘤坏死因子受体家族的成员, 主要在 B 细胞和其他抗原提呈细胞中表达[53]。来自台湾的一项随访研究发现, 4 个共刺激基因(传入: CTLA-4、CD28、ICOS; 传出: CD40)的四个 SNPs 与抗甲状腺药物停药后的疾病复发显著相关。在传入信号中, CTLA-4 基因的单核苷酸多态性(SNP)外显子 1 + 49A/G(rs231775)是 GD 复发的风险等位基因; 而在传出信号中, CD40 的 3 个风险等位基因(rs745307, rs11569309, rs3765457)与 GD 复发有关。因此, 结合 CTLA-4 和 CD40 的风险等位基因可提高复发的可预测性[12]。CTLA-4 是 T 细胞介导的免疫反应的主要负调控因子。Wang 等人的研究发现, CTLA-4 外显子 1 中第 49 位的 A/G SNP 与停药后 GD 复发有关[54], 并在后续的研究中进一步证实了这一结论[55]。土耳其的一项研究也得到了相似的结果, 他们报道了 CTLA-4 分子的 A/G 多态性与 GD 有关, 其中 GG 基因型与 AA 基因型相比, GD 复发的风险显著增加[56]。而 Kim 等人没有发现 GD 的复发与疾病易感基因 CD40 和 CTLA-4 之间的联系。可能与研究人群数量、种族等因素有关[57]。

PTPN22 是一种强大的 T 细胞激活抑制剂。PTPN22 多态性主要为: R620W 或 1858C/T (rs2476601)、启动子区-1123G/C (rs2488457)和内含子 19 (rs3789607) [58]。Vos [48]等人的一项在欧洲人群的研究中发现了 PTPN22 (rs2476601)是 GD 患者复发的一个预测因子, 并将起与其他因素一起被纳入了 GD 治疗后复发事件(Graves' recurrent events after therapy, GREAT)评分标准。

除此之外, miRNAs 作为一个非编码的小 RNA 分子也被认为参与 GD 的发病。Liu [23]等人通过招募 103 例新诊断 GD 并接受 ATD (甲巯咪唑, MMI)治疗的患者, 研究了循环中 miRNA-346 与患者停药后复发的关系, 结果显示, GD 诊断和停药时 miRNA-346 水平下降均是 GD 停药后复发的独立危险因素。但该研究样本量小, 需要更多的研究来支持这一结论。

4. 总结

综上所述, ATD 治疗作为目前我国 GD 患者首选的治疗方案, 停药后复发率高, 年龄、性别、吸烟、压力、失眠、甲状腺肿、TRAb、药物治疗方案、甲状腺功能、维生素 D、基因等因素均可能影响 GD 的复发。因此, 在为每个 GD 患者选择合适的治疗方法时, 应考虑到复发的风险预测因素。

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