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· 论著 ·

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肾炎康复片对单侧输尿管梗阻大鼠肾间质纤维化的保护作用

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[摘要] 目的: 探讨肾炎康复片对单侧输尿管梗阻(unilateral ureteral occlusion, UUO)大鼠肾间质纤维化(renal interstitial fibrosis, RIF)的保护作用。方法: 雌性SD大鼠24只, 随机分为假手术组(sham组)、UUO组和肾炎康复片组(SYKF组), 每组各8只。SYKF组给予肾炎康复片600 mg/(kg·d)灌胃, sham组和UUO组予同体积的生理盐水灌胃。14 d后处死各组大鼠, 取左肾组织作HE染色和Masson染色观察肾组织学变化; 采用实时定量荧光聚合酶链反应(real-time polymerase chain reaction, real-time PCR)的方法检测肾 α -平滑肌肌动蛋白(α -smooth muscle actin, α -SMA)和E-钙黏蛋白(E-cadherin)的mRNA水平; 用Western印迹法检测肾 α -SMA和E-cadherin蛋白的表达情况。结果: UUO组肾组织出现明显RIF改变, SYKF组RIF程度较UUO组明显减轻; UUO组大鼠肾 α -SMA mRNA和蛋白表达水平较sham组明显升高($P < 0.01$); 而E-cadherin mRNA和蛋白的表达水平较sham组明显下调($P < 0.01$)。与UUO组相比, SYKF组肾 α -SMA mRNA和蛋白表达水平明显下调($P < 0.05$), 而E-cadherin mRNA和蛋白表达水平显著升高($P < 0.05$)。结论: 肾炎康复片对UUO大鼠RIF起一定的保护作用, 其机制可能与肾小管上皮细胞转分化有关。

[关键词] 肾炎康复片; 肾间质纤维化; 肾小管上皮细胞转分化

Protection of Shenyankangfu tablet on renal interstitial fibrosis in unilateral ureteral occlusion rats

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Abstract **Objective:** To investigate the protective effects of Shenyankangfu tablet on renal interstitial fibrosis in unilateral ureteral obstruction (UUO) rats. **Methods:** Twenty-four SD rats were randomly divided into three groups, including the sham group, the UUO group and the SYKF group ($n=8$). Rats of the SYKF group were given a gavage with Shenyankangfu tablet at a dose 600 mg/(kg·d); the sham and the UUO groups rats were treated with normal saline of the same volume. After executing all the rats at 14 d, changes in renal pathology were observed by HE and Masson staining, and the expressions of α -smooth muscle actin (α -SMA), E-cadherin mRNA and protein were measured by real-time polymerase chain reaction (real-time PCR) and Western blot. **Results:** Renal interstitial fibrosis was observed

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in the UUO group. However, renal interstitial fibrosis was ameliorated significantly in the SYKF group. The expressions of α -SMA mRNA and protein were significantly increased in the UUO group ($P < 0.01$), but the opposite expressions of E-cadherin mRNA and protein ($P < 0.01$) compared with those in the sham group. The expressions of α -SMA mRNA and protein were significantly decreased ($P < 0.05$), while E-cadherin mRNA and protein were increased ($P < 0.05$) in the SYKF group compared with UUO group. **Conclusion:** Shenyankangfu tablet maybe have protective effects on renal interstitial fibrosis potentially associated with transdifferentiation of renal tubular epithelial cells.

Keywords Shenyankangfu tablet; renal interstitial fibrosis; epithelial-mesenchymal transition

肾纤维化是各种不同病因的慢性肾病(chronic kidney disease, CKD)进展到终末期肾病(end stage renal disease, ESRD)的重要共同环节, 包括肾小球硬化和肾间质纤维化(renal interstitial fibrosis, RIF)。研究^[1]证实: 与肾小球硬化相比, RIF与肾功能减退的关系更为密切, 阻止和逆转RIF的进展成为治疗、延缓CKD的关键。肾炎康复片是中药复方剂, 研究^[2]发现其在治疗各种原发及继发性肾小球疾病时, 均取得良好效果。但其对RIF保护作用的研究较少。本研究通过建立单侧输尿管梗阻(unilateral ureteral occlusion, UUO)大鼠RIF模型, 同时给予肾炎康复片进行干预, 观察肾炎康复片对大鼠RIF的病理改变及其对 α -平滑肌肌动蛋白(α -smooth muscle actin, α -SMA), E-钙黏蛋白(E-cadherin)的表达影响, 探讨其可能的作用机制。

1 对象与方法

1.1 对象

1.1.1 实验动物

雌性清洁级SD大鼠24只(广东省实验动物中心), 体重180~220 g; SD大鼠按2~3只/笼, 饲养房内保持恒温恒湿, 控制室温(23 ± 2) °C, 相对湿度维持在(55 ± 2)%, 每12 h间隔交替光照。

1.1.2 主要试剂

肾炎康复片购自天津同仁堂股份有限公司(国药准字Z10940034); DAB显色试剂盒购自北京中杉金桥生物有限公司; α -SMA一抗、E-cadherin一抗、鼠二抗均购自美国Sigma公司; 二喹啉甲酸(bicinchoninic acid, BCA)蛋白定量试剂盒购自美国Pierce公司; 反转录试剂盒购自美国Fermentas公司; 实时定量荧光聚合酶链反应(real-time polymerase chain reaction, real-time PCR)试剂盒购自日本Takara公司。

1.2 方法

1.2.1 分组及UUO模型制备

雌性SD大鼠24只, 随机分为假手术组(sham组)、

UUO组和肾炎康复片组(SYKF组), 每组各8只。UUO组和SYKF组均行改良左侧输尿管结扎术^[3]; sham组大鼠所有手术步骤与UUO组大鼠相同, 但不结扎、不截断输尿管。手术当天SYKF组给予肾炎康复片600 mg/(kg·d)灌胃, sham组和UUO组予同体积的生理盐水灌胃, 连续14 d。术后14 d用10%水合氯醛经腹腔麻醉大鼠后, 处死3组大鼠。留取各组大鼠左侧肾标本, 取部分肾组织用冰冻PBS冲洗后保存于4%多聚甲醛液中, 用于HE染色、Masson染色; 部分肾组织分装后同样予冰冻PBS冲洗后放入液氮罐中保存, 以备取组织RNA和蛋白。

1.2.2 HE染色

用4%多聚甲醛固定的肾组织, 依次梯度乙醇脱水, 石蜡包埋, 切片后4 °C保存备用染色。切片脱蜡、脱水、蒸馏水清洗后, 于室温下苏木精染细胞核10 min, 伊红染色5 min, 室温晾干后封片。取HE染色切片, 每例切片选取5个无交叉重叠的肾间质视野, 对肾间质损伤程度进行评分^[4]。

1.2.3 Masson染色

取大鼠肾组织石蜡切片, 脱蜡2次后梯度无水乙醇脱水2次, 蒸馏水清洗后苏木精染核10 min, 丽春红酸性品红液染色10 min, 漂洗, 2%亮绿染色液染色3 min, 醋酸水清洗后晾干封片。取Masson染色切片, 每例切片选取10个无交叉重叠的视野, 对肾间质的胶原含量进行半定量评分^[5]。

1.2.4 Real-time PCR检测大鼠肾 α -SMA和E-cadherin的mRNA表达

用Trizol法提取各组织总RNA, 测量各样本RNA的吸光度(OD)值, 并用1%琼脂糖凝胶电泳检测RNA完整性。按照反转录试剂盒的操作说明, 在反应体系中进行反转录反应, 将RNA反转录为cDNA; 按照TaKaRag公司SYBR Premix EX Taq试剂盒说明书配制PCR反应体系, 按下列公式计算目的基因相对表达量: 目的基因相对表达量 = $2^{-\Delta\Delta CT}$ ($\Delta CT = CT_{目的基因} - CT_{内参}$; $\Delta\Delta CT = \Delta CT_{各样本} - \Delta CT_{正常样本}$)。各基因引物序列Ct见表1。

表1 目的基因引物序列

Table 1 Sequence of target gene primer

基因	正向引物 (5'-3')	反向引物 (5'-3')
α -SMA	CTAAGGCCAACCGGGAGAAA	CCAGAGTCCAGCACAATACCA
E-cadherin	TGTTGATAGCGTGCCCTTTG	GTTCCGATTGCTTGCCITTT
β -actin	CGTTGACATCCGTAAAGACC	GGAGCCAGGGCAGTAATCT

1.2.5 Western 印迹法检测各组大鼠肾 α -SMA 和 E-cadherin 蛋白的表达

取各实验组大鼠的肾组织, 抽提组织总蛋白, 用BCA法对蛋白进行定量, 所得蛋白于SDS-PAGE凝胶中电泳, 分离蛋白后转印至聚偏二氟乙烯膜(polyvinylidene fluoride, PVDF)膜上, 5%脱脂牛奶封闭, 根据抗原-抗体反应原理, 分别加入一抗、二抗, 全自动显影机显影, 显影结果采用Band Scan图像分析软件进行图像分析。

1.3 统计学处理

采用SPSS 17.0统计软件进行分析。计量资料用均数 \pm 标准差($\bar{x}\pm s$)表示。所有数据进行方差齐性检验, 根据数据的性质, 组间比较采用单因素方差分析, $P<0.05$ 为差异有统计学意义。

2 结果

2.1 各组大鼠肾组织病理改变

Sham组大鼠肾小球、肾小管、肾间质基本正常, 未见肾小管扩张和/或萎缩、肾间质水肿及炎症细胞浸润、肾间质成纤维细胞沉积等改变。UUO组可见肾小管管腔不同程度扩张、萎缩或闭塞, 肾小管上皮细胞肿胀、空泡样变形, 肾间质增宽, 炎症细胞浸润及成纤维细胞增殖, 胶原成

分增多, 部分肾小管腔内可见蛋白管型。SYKF组RIF较UUO组轻, 可见肾小管扩张、萎缩减少, 肾小管上皮细胞肿胀及变形较少, 炎症细胞及胶原沉积有所减少, 纤维化程度减轻。说明肾炎康复片可抑制UUO导致的大鼠肾小管、肾间质病变, 减少肾间质炎症细胞浸润及RIF病变(图1, 2)。

2.2 各组大鼠肾组织 α -SMA 和 E-cadherin mRNA 表达

Sham组大鼠肾组织 α -SMA mRNA低表达, E-cadherin mRNA高表达; 与sham组相比, UUO组大鼠肾组织 α -SMA mRNA表达量明显升高, 而E-cadherin mRNA的表达明显下降, 差异有统计学意义(均 $P<0.01$); 与UUO组相比, SYKF组 α -SMA mRNA表达明显减少, 而E-cadherin mRNA表达明显升高, 差异有统计学意义(均 $P<0.05$; 表2)。

2.3 各组大鼠肾组织 α -SMA 和 E-cadherin 蛋白表达

Sham组大鼠肾组织 α -SMA蛋白低表达, E-cadherin蛋白高表达; 与sham组相比, UUO组大鼠肾组织 α -SMA蛋白表达明显升高, 而E-cadherin蛋白的表达明显下降; 与UUO组相比, SYKF组 α -SMA蛋白表达量减少, 而E-cadherin蛋白表达比UUO组升高(图3)。

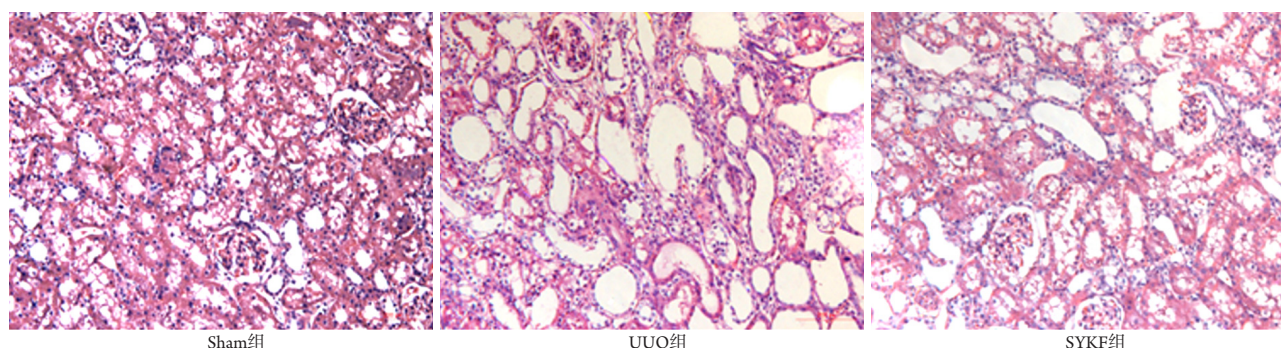


图1 3组大鼠肾组织HE染色($\times 200$)

Figure 1 Rat kidney tissue by HE staining of the 3 groups ($\times 200$)

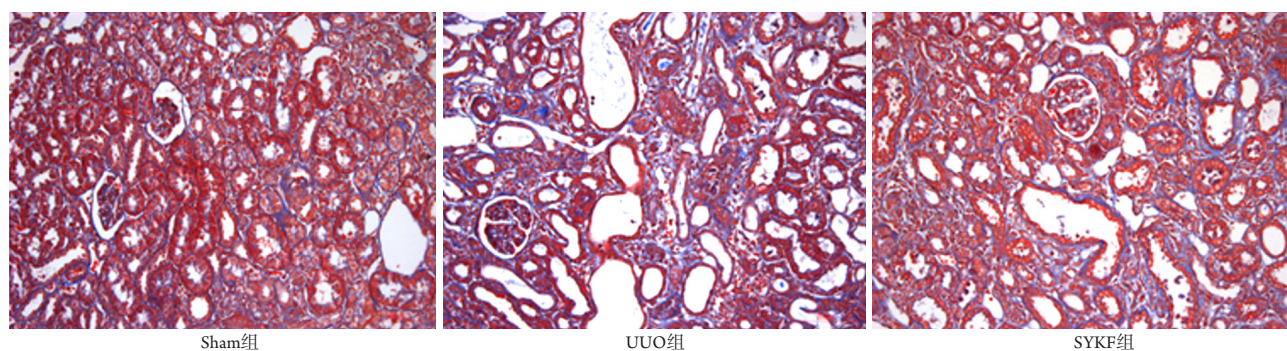


图2 3组大鼠肾组织Masson染色($\times 200$)

Figure 2 Rat kidney tissue by Masson staining of the 3 groups ($\times 200$)

表2 Real-time PCR检测3组大鼠肾 α -SMA和E-cadherin mRNA表达($n=8, \bar{x}\pm s$)

Table 2 mRNA expression of α -SMA and E-cadherin in the three groups measured by real-time PCR ($n=8, \bar{x}\pm s$)

组别	E-cadherin mRNA	α -SMA mRNA
Sham组	1 \pm 0	1 \pm 0
UUO组	0.25 \pm 0.06**	3.24 \pm 0.72**
SYKF组	0.68 \pm 0.13 [#]	1.69 \pm 0.37 [#]

与sham组相比, ** $P<0.01$; 与UUO组相比, [#] $P<0.05$ 。

Compared with the sham group, ** $P<0.01$; compared with the UUO group, [#] $P<0.05$.

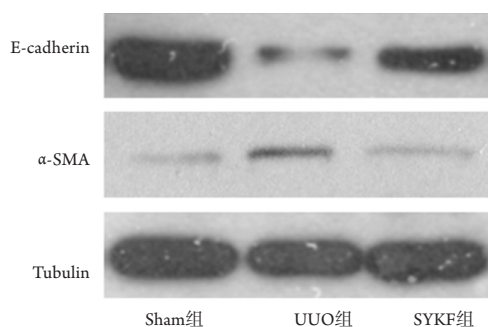


图3 3组大鼠肾 α -SMA和E-cadherin蛋白表达

Figure 3 Protein expression of α -SMA and E-cadherin in the 3 groups

3 讨论

RIF是CKD发展到ESRD的共同病理基础, 阻止和逆转RIF的进展是治疗CKD、延缓肾功能衰竭的关键。肾炎康复片为中药复方剂, 主要由西洋参、人参、生地黄、杜仲、山药、黑豆、土茯苓、丹参、益母草、泽泻等组成, 具有益气养阴、补肾健脾、活血化瘀、利水消肿等功效。研究^[6]认为: 对于糖尿病患者早期肾小管损害, 肾

炎康复片可减少超敏C反应蛋白(high-sensitivity C-reactive protein, hs-CRP)、糖化血红蛋白, 延缓疾病进展。肾炎康复片还可延缓RIF, 减少细胞外基质(extracellular matrix, ECM)的生成。已有研究^[7]发现肾炎康复片可抑制基质金属蛋白酶抑制剂-1(tissue inhibitor of metalloproteinase-1, TIMP-1)的表达、增加MMP-9表达, 从而改善RIF。本实验建立UUO大鼠RIF模型, 发现给予肾炎康复片治疗的SYKF组大鼠与模型组(UUO组)相比, 肾HE染色和Masson染色中, 肾小管扩张、萎缩减少, 肾间质胶原减少, 肾纤维化程度减轻, 提示肾炎康复片可抑制UUO组大鼠肾间质胶原形成, 改善RIF。这与其他学者^[8]的报道一致。

肾小管上皮转分化(epithelial-mesenchymal transition, EMT)是RIF过程中的核心环节之一^[9]。近来虽出现诸多质疑RIF中EMT现象的研究^[10], 但多数学者^[11]仍认为: EMT引起肾小管上皮细胞游离, 从而使肾小管萎缩, 肌成纤维细胞进入间质, 同时又分泌大量ECM, 参与RIF。抑制和逆转肾小管上皮细胞转分化可阻止RIF发生, 进而延缓CKD的进展^[12]。在这一过程中, 肾小管上皮细胞

可获得新的间充质细胞的特点, 如E-cadherin的表达减少、重新表达 α -SMA等^[13]。

已有研究^[14]提出: RIF的中医病机特点为正虚血瘀, 其始动因素是正虚, 病理基础是血瘀。而肾炎康复片成分中, 西洋参、人参、生地黄具有滋阴补气的作用, 丹参、益母草具有活血化瘀的作用, 其成分可改善正虚血瘀, 故肾炎康复片对RIF具有一定的治疗效果。有研究^[8]发现: 肾炎康复片组可在不同程度上减轻UUO大鼠肾间质胶原的沉积和肾病理损害, 抑制TIMP-1的表达。肾炎康复片用于早期糖尿病肾病患者后, 患者肾小管标志蛋白N-乙酰- β -D-葡萄糖苷酶(N-acetyl-beta-D-glucosidase, NAG), β 2微球蛋白(β 2-microglobulin, β 2-MG), 视黄醇结合蛋白(retinol binding protein, RBP)水平明显下降, 提示其可减轻糖尿病肾病患者的肾小管损伤^[6]。在氨基核苷嘌呤霉素(puromycin aminonucleoside, PAN)诱导的CKD模型^[15]中, 肾炎康复片可改善大鼠肾小管扩张、萎缩、间质水肿和炎症细胞浸润等RIF表现。然而目前肾炎康复片改善RIF的机制尚不明确。本实验结果显示: 与UUO组相比, 肾炎康复片治疗后的SYKF组 α -SMA表达下降、E-cadherin表达增加, 提示该药物可能通过抑制EMT, 改善UUO大鼠RIF。

综上所述, 肾炎康复片可改善UUO大鼠RIF的形成, 其作为一个复方制剂, 可能通过多通道、多靶点发挥作用, 抑制肾小管上皮细胞转分化可能是其改善RIF病变的机制之一。

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