

脂蛋白与心血管疾病残余风险的研究现状

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摘要

尽管心血管疾病的防治取得了较为突出的成果, 但其患病率和病死率仍较高。目前的指南针对降低低密度脂蛋白胆固醇(LDL-C)浓度, 以减少动脉粥样硬化性心血管疾病(ASCVD)风险, 尽管积极降低LDL-C, 但残留ASCVD风险仍然存在, 因此积极预防及治疗心血管疾病迫在眉睫, 寻求新的方法降低心血管疾病的残余风险具有重要临床意义。本文主要总结了脂蛋白(LDL-C, HDL-C, TG, RLPs, Lp(a))与心血管疾病残余风险有关的证据。

关键词

动脉粥样硬化性心血管疾病, 残余心血管风险, 脂蛋白(a), 残余脂蛋白, 甘油三脂

Research Status of Lipoprotein and Residual Risk of Cardiovascular Disease

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Abstract

Although the prevention and treatment of cardiovascular diseases have made remarkable achievements, the prevalence and mortality of cardiovascular diseases are still high. Current guidelines aim to reduce the concentration of low-density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL-C) to reduce the risk of atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease (ASCVD). Despite aggressive lowering of LDL-C, the risk of residual ASCVD remains, making active prevention and treatment of cardiovas-

cular disease urgent. It is of great clinical significance to seek new methods to reduce the residual risk of cardiovascular disease. This review summarizes the evidence that lipoproteins (LDL-C, HDL-C, TG, RLPs, Lp(a)) are associated with residual risk of cardiovascular disease.

Keywords

Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease, Residual Cardiovascular Risk, Lipoprotein(a), Remnant Lipoproteins, Triglyceride

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1. 引言

动脉粥样硬化性心血管疾病(atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease, ASCVD)与心血管事件风险增加密切相关,虽然 ASCVD 预后已显著改善,但仍是全球患病率、死亡率最高的疾病[1]。动脉粥样硬化的危险因素包括血脂异常、高血压、糖尿病和吸烟等。在众多危险因素中,控制 LDL-C 是目前抑制动脉粥样硬化最为有效的手段。已证实血脂异常是 ASCVD 发生发展的核心致病危险因素,血脂升高者 ASCVD 发病风险显著增加[2]。Khetarpal 等[3]将 LDL-C 控制在目标水平后患者仍出现心血管事件的风险定义为残余风险。目前主要通过生活方式的干预和传统危险因素的控制来降低心血管病风险。近年来尽管对传统危险因素进行控制或给予最佳的药物治疗心血管病的防治取得了显著成效,虽然残余心血管风险(residual cardiovascular risk, RCVR)的风险涉及多个方面,其中血脂指标在 ASCVD 中扮演着重要的角色。

2. 低密度脂蛋白胆固醇与心血管疾病残余风险

基于血液胆固醇增加(尤其是低密度脂蛋白中的胆固醇)与 ASCVD 发病率和死亡率之间的明确关系,目前的治疗指南侧重于降低 LDL-C 浓度以降低 ASCVD 风险[4] [5]。然而,许多关于他汀类药物、非他汀类药物和联合治疗的临床试验显示,尽管积极降低 LDL-C,但仍存在持续的残余 ASCVD 风险[6] [7] [8]。

一项针对 18,924 例急性冠脉综合征(acute coronary syndrome, ACS)患者进行中位随访 2.8 年的研究[9],首次以 LDL-C < 15 mg/dL 作为阈值调整降脂药物的使用,通过阿利西尤单抗大幅降低 LDL-C 水平,从而显著降低 ACS 患者的全因死亡以及主要不良心脏事件(major adverse cardiovascular event, MACE)的风险。

前蛋白转化酶枯草溶菌素 9 (proprotein convertase subtilisin/kexin type 9, PCSK9)在 LDL 代谢中的作用于 2003 年由 Abifadel [10]等人首次描述,PCSK9 功能突变与常染色体显性遗传性家族性高胆固醇血症(FH)有关。随后证实,功能丧失的 PCSK9 突变与 LDL-C 暴露减少和冠心病风险降低相关[11]。这为评估 PCSK9 抑制对冠心病风险的影响的大规模临床研究奠定了基础。在一项对 4465 名高危患者进行的随机开放研究中[12],OSLER-1 和 OSLER-2 试验测试了 PCSK9 单抗与标准治疗相比降低 LDL 的效果,结果显示,LDL 显著降低了 61%。FOURIER 试验是一个检查 PCSK9 抑制的心血管结果的大规模随机临床试验。研究显示在 volocumab 组中,LDL-C 降低了 59%,主要综合结果(心血管性死亡、心肌梗死、中风、不稳定心绞痛或冠状动脉血运重建)绝对风险降低了 1.5%,从而确立了 PCSK9 单抗是一种有效的治疗方法,可以减少高危患者中由 LDL-C 介导的残余冠心病风险[8]。长期的血脂干预临床研究表明,降低心血管事件风险与 LDL-C 绝对减少值呈正相关。

以上研究证实, 针对 ASCVD 人群将 LDL-C 水平进一步降低, 可带来显著临床获益, 为血脂指南的更新提供了有力证据, 目前 LDL-C 仍是 ASCVD 风险防控的首要靶标。

3. 高密度脂蛋白胆固醇与心血管疾病残余风险

高密度脂蛋白胆固醇(high-density lipoprotein cholesterol, HDL-C)具有动脉粥样硬化保护作用。HDL-C 参与胆固醇的反向运输, 并具有抗氧化、抗炎和抗血栓的特性[13]。随着对 HDL 拮抗动脉粥样硬化的众多机制的认识, 进一步的研究试图确定 HDL 是否真的具有动脉粥样硬化保护作用, 以及提高其血清浓度是否降低冠心病的风险, 但结果相互矛盾。

根据目前广泛公布的心血管危险模型, 表明 HDL-C 与冠心病风险呈负相关。低水平 HDL-C 一直被认为与心血管不良事件的风险增加相关[14]。但孟德尔随机试验并未揭示 HDL-C 和心血管疾病之间的因果关系[15]。临床试验发现烟酸或胆固醇酯转移蛋白(cholesteryl ester transfer protein, CETP)抑制剂虽然能提高 HDL-C 的水平, 但并不能降低患者心血管事件的风险[16] [17]。有研究表明, HDL-C 与全因死亡的关系并非呈线性, 而是呈“U”形, 过高或过低的 HDL-C 水平均与全因死亡风险增加相关[18]。HDL 具有很大的异质性, 除了调节脂质代谢和脂质运输外, HDL 还参与抗炎、止血、抗氧化等活动, 分别与不同的蛋白质有关, 故单纯提高 HDL 水平并不能实现临床获益[19]。

虽然低 HDL-C 水平是一个心血管事件风险的有力预测因素, 但以 HDL 为靶点的心血管治疗策略, 更可行的方向是确定具有抗动脉粥样硬化功能以及导致 HDL 功能失调的成分, 并最终通过调节这些组分发挥治疗作用。

4. 甘油三酯和残余脂蛋白与心血管疾病残余风险

血浆甘油三酯在乳糜粒和极低密度脂蛋白(VLDL)中携带, 统称为富含甘油三酯脂蛋白(triglyceride-rich lipoproteins, TGRL)。甘油三酯不溶于水, 它们必须通过脂蛋白在血清中运输, 而乳糜粒和极低密度脂蛋白颗粒通常太大而不能穿过内皮, 然在高甘油三酯状态下, 残余脂蛋白(Remnant lipoproteins, RLP)由外源性乳糜粒或内源性 VLDL 水解而产生, 具有相对较长的血浆停留时间, 提供了更长的进入内皮下间隙的机会, 导致促炎环境, 从而增强黏附分子的表达、泡沫细胞的形成和平滑肌细胞的毒性[20]。与这些发现一致, RLP 已在几个大型观察性联合研究中被证明是一个原因和独立的 CHD 危险因素, 孟德尔随机研究进一步证实了这一点[21] [22]。来自 10 个干预试验的他汀类药物治疗患者的冠状动脉粥样硬化和临床事件的评估中[23], 治疗中较高的 RLP-C 浓度与 24 个月后冠状动脉粥样硬化的更大进展和 ASCVD 事件的累积发生率增加显著相关。这些结果与另一项报告 RLP-C 与冠状动脉总斑块负荷的关系的研究是一致的[24]。

在大多数随机的他汀类试验中, MIRACL、Dal-Results [25]、Ideal 和 TNT [26] [27]等研究表明, 甘油三酯水平升高与心血管风险增加有关。在 TNT 和 IDEAL 试验中, 甘油三酯浓度为 ≥ 150 mg/dL 与发生急性心肌梗死事件的高风险相关。试验显示阿托伐他汀 80 mg/天与中等剂量他汀类药物治疗(IDEAL 为辛伐他汀 20 至 40 mg/天, TNT 为 10 mg/天)在冠心病或心肌梗死病史患者中, 结果是在在试验第一年之后发生的 MACE。在调整年龄、性别和研究后, MACE 的风险随着 TG 的增加而增加($p < 0.001$), 患者的 MACE 发生率比最低五分位数的患者高 63%。此外, 参与 TGRL 代谢的基因变异, 即 LPL 和那些调节 LPL 功能的基因, 也与 ASCVD 有关: LPL 功能丧失和错义致病变异的杂合子携带者甘油三酯浓度更高, 冠心病的风险增加[28]。ApoA5 基因变异使甘油三酯浓度增加 16%, 与 CHD 风险增加相关[29]。

流行病学和遗传学研究确定 TRL 及其残余物是 ASCVD 的重要贡献者, 尽管他汀类药物和其他降低低密度脂蛋白的治疗减少了 ASCVD 事件, 但复发事件仍有相当大的残余风险。此外, 基因研究为降低

血清甘油三酯提供了新的治疗靶点, 还需要进行临床试验来测试它们对心血管结果的影响。

5. 脂蛋白 a 与心血管疾病残余风险

目前大规模遗传学及人群队列研究均证实脂蛋白 a (Lipoprotein(a), Lp(a))显著增加 ASCVD 风险。在一项对 63,746 名已知冠心病患者和 130,681 名对照组的研究中, 全基因组关联分析揭示了与 CHD 最有效的遗传关联是 LPA 基因; LPA 基因是一种比与低密度脂蛋白或任何其他与脂质代谢或炎症相关的基因变异更有效的单基因风险标记[30]。

同时, 有关 Lp(a)与 ASCVD 关系在循证证据中亦得到验证。一项包括 36 项前瞻性研究的荟萃分析发现, Lp(a)浓度与冠心病风险之间存在显著关联[31]。Khera [32]等人通过纳入他汀类药物用于一级预防的论证: 评价瑞舒伐他汀的干预性试验人群进行研究, 发现在接受瑞舒伐他汀治疗使 LDL-C 水平显著降低后, Lp(a)水平每增加 1 个标准差, 心血管疾病发病风险增加 27%。在 JUPITER 试验中, 应用瑞舒伐他汀的 3877 例 ASCVD 患者 LDL-C 控制在 55.0 mg/dl 及 Lp(a) > 21 mg/dl 的患者发生 MACE 的风险高达 71%。在代谢综合征伴低高密度脂蛋白/高甘油三酯动脉粥样硬化血栓形成干预和对全球健康结局的影响研究中[33], 应用烟酸的 1427 例 ASCVD 患者中, 在 LDL-C 达到 65.2 mg/dl, Lp(a) > 50 mg/dl 显著增加 MACE 的发生风险。由此可见, 在他汀治疗 LDL-C 水平得到控制后, Lp(a)升高是主要的 ASCVD 残留风险。因此降低 Lp(a)水平可能会带来一定的临床获益。而生活方式干预和已获批的药物均不能显著降低 Lp(a)水平, 且目前尚无特异性降低 Lp(a)水平的药物获批。

6. 结语

流行病学和遗传学研究以及随机临床试验的累积证据表明, 残余脂蛋白、Lp(a)与已经接受他汀类药物治疗的个体的 ASCVD 风险相关。就目前的研究来看, 只把降脂治疗的重点放在 LDL-C 上似乎已经无法满足改善 CAD 患者预后及预防不良心脑血管事件发生的需求。non-HDL-C、ApoB、脂蛋白(a)等指标更能在深层次上反应患者的预后状况及发病风险。许多药理药物的开发已经取得了很大的进展, 以对抗这些危险因素, 但也有一些值得注意的失败和成功。需要进一步的研究, 以更全面地描述残留风险的来源, 并实施有效的预防性治疗。

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