

肺动脉去神经术治疗肺动脉高压研究进展

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收稿日期: 2021-06-12; 接受日期: 2022-03-21; 网络版发表日期: 2022-04-29

摘要 交感神经过度激活在肺动脉高压(pulmonary arterial hypertension, PAH)的进展中起着重要作用。肺动脉去神经术(pulmonary artery denervation, PADN)是最近提出的利用10个电极的消融导管治疗PAH的介入方法。本综述介绍了肺动脉交感神经的定位, PADN的关键步骤, 以及目前在PAH或混合型毛细管后和前性肺动脉高压(combined pre-capillary and post-capillary PH, Cpc-PH)患者的临床试验结果。

关键词 肺动脉高压, 交感神经, 肺动脉去神经术, 消融, 10个电极的消融导管, 临床试验

肺动脉高压(pulmonary arterial hypertension, PAH)是一种致命的疾病, 其特征表现为肺血管重构, 肺血管阻力(pulmonary vascular resistance, PVR)逐渐升高, 进一步导致右心衰和死亡^[1]。根据WHO的定义, PAH主要被归为第I大类肺动脉高压, 但仍有其他不同病因(第II, III, IV, V大类)继发的肺动脉高压(pulmonary hypertension, PH)^[1,2]。右心导管测量的静息时平均肺动脉压(mean pulmonary artery pressure, mPAP)≥25 mmHg和PVR>3 WU是诊断所有毛细血管前性肺动脉高压的两个关键标准^[1,2]。然而, 肺毛细血管楔压(pulmonary capillary wedge pressure, PCWP)或肺动脉闭塞压(pulmonary artery occlusion pressure, PAOP)>15 mmHg是区分第II大类肺动脉高压(由左心衰引起)与其他病因^[1]的另一个关键标准。一般来说, 针对三种不同信号通路的药物显著改善了第I大类患者的临床预后。然而, 没有一种药物被推荐用于治疗II类肺动脉高压^[1]。此外, 多项研究表明, 在衰竭心脏^[3]的心肌

细胞上肾上腺素能受体过度表达和PH患者交感神经过度激活^[4,5]。这些特征提示经皮肺动脉去神经术(pulmonary artery denervation, PADN)治疗肺动脉高压患者的潜在可能。

1 PAH交感神经过度激活的证据

肺血管由3种不同的神经纤维支配: 交感神经、副交感神经和感觉神经纤维。交感神经刺激^[6]α-肾上腺素受体介导血管张力。去甲肾上腺素能纤维被肺动脉血脑屏障内的压力感受器激活, 化学受体对动脉pO₂水平的降低作出反应, 增加交感神经元对交感神经的刺激^[6,7]。通过迷走神经刺激的副交感神经激活导致胆碱能介导的肺血管舒张^[8]。在过去的几十年里, 大量的证据表明, 交感神经系统过度活跃与PAH的进展有关。与对照组相比, 肺动脉高压患者的肌肉交感神经活动(muscle sympathetic nerve activity, MSNA)增加。另一

引用格式: 张航, 陈绍良. 肺动脉去神经术治疗肺动脉高压研究进展. 中国科学: 生命科学, 2022, 52: 767–772
Zhang H, Chen S L. Update on pulmonary artery denervation for pulmonary hypertension (in Chinese). Sci Sin Vitae, 2022, 52: 767–772, doi: 10.1360/
SSV-2021-0300

方面, 肺动脉高压患者也存在心率增高的情况^[4,5], 这是区分该疾病预后的一种危险因素^[4,5,9]。值得注意的是, 增加的MSNA和心率与心包积液、纽约心脏协会心功能分级和6分钟步行距离(6 minute walking test, 6-MWD)直接相关^[4,10]。综上所述, PADN部分或完全破坏肺动脉交感神经可能对治疗肺动脉高压有益。

2 肺动脉交感神经定位

交感神经系统起源于脊髓胸腰段^[11], 来自椎旁或椎前神经节T1~L2节段突触的节前纤维, 经节后纤维能够刺激靶器官, 如心脏和肺。Zhang等人^[12]报道, 犬双侧肺动脉近端和远端交感神经丰富, 多位于分叉和主肺动脉干后部。Zhou等人^[13]报道, 犬的交感神经束

起源于肺动脉瓣水平上方的1~3个神经节, 沿肺动脉干左侧走行。在分支附近, 肺神经干分为左支和右支。两个分支都与左、右肺动脉分支的后壁相连。动物标本的肺动脉前区神经末梢较少。然而, 关于肺动脉神经在人体内分布的数据非常缺乏。因此, 迫切需要对肺动脉神经在人体中的分布进行解剖学研究, 以促进PADN的临床应用。

3 PADN对交感神经损伤的临床前研究

Zhou等人^[13]首次证明, 神经干到血管腔的最小距离位于肺动脉分叉区左侧, 小于1 mm(图1A), 这是一个理想的射频消融范围。三根神经纤维走行后很快融合(图1B)。射频可引起显著的神经损伤, 表现为神经的

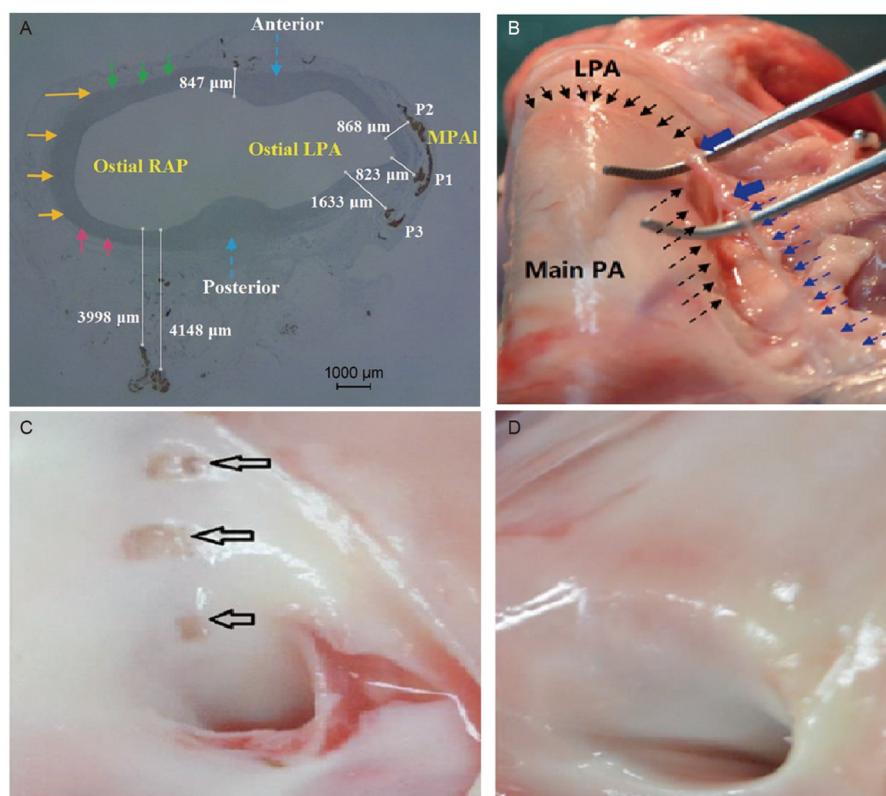


图 1 肺动脉交感神经分布及去神经术即刻肉眼观。肺动脉交感神经主干位于肺动脉主干的左侧, 在左右肺动脉发出前走向左肺动脉的前壁及右肺动脉的前后壁。神经距离肺动脉内膜最近处位于肺动脉主干末端(<1 mm, A), 术后即刻出现交感神经损伤段水肿(B), 肉眼可见三个损伤点(C), 术后1个月后损伤内膜愈合(D)。(引自文献[13])

Figure 1 Immediate gross view of pulmonary sympathetic nerve distribution and denervation. Pulmonary sympathetic nerve trunk is located on the left side of the main pulmonary artery, and goes to the anterior wall of the left pulmonary artery and the anterior and posterior wall of the right pulmonary artery before the left and right pulmonary arteries come out. The closest nerve to the pulmonary artery intima is located at the terminal of the main pulmonary artery (<1 mm, A), the sympathetic nerve injury segment edema immediately after surgery (B), three visible injury points (C), the injured intima healed 1 month after surgery (D). (Refer to figure in Ref. [13])

肿胀和水肿(图1B实心箭头). 由于消融过程是在三个消融靶点进行, 消融与明显的内膜损伤相关(图1C箭头). 随访发现1个月时完成内膜愈合(图1D), 无血栓形成.

1980年, Juratsch等人^[7]在急性肺动脉高压动物模型中, 第一次完成外科纵向损伤肺交感神经(外科消融方法)或在交感神经表面应用特异性交感神经节阻滞剂(6-OMT)(化学消融方法)消融. 国内学者采用外科消融方法在动物模型证实, 外科消融通过抑制交感神经和肾素-血管紧张素-醛固酮系统神经激素受体轴的过度激活, 完全准确地去除肺动脉周围的主要交感神经, 并减轻肺动脉高压的进展^[14]. 本团队^[15]的研究报道, PADN术后连续阻断血流和肺动脉延伸后, 肺动脉压未升高. 此外, 这种刺激性的治疗效果被认为与位于肺动脉末端分叉区域的压力感受器的破坏有关. 这些基础研究结果提供了PADN治疗PAH的概念.

2013年, 本团队^[15]在动物模型上使用自己设计的消融导管验证了PADN的疗效. 该研究使用球囊在肺动脉分叉区域完全堵塞肺动脉而不是在远端区域, 导致肺动脉压显著升高, 提示神经和压力感受器的位置更近. 研究发现, 在分叉区(左、右肺动脉分叉口近5 mm, 或远端分叉区)进行PADN可引起肺动脉压显著降低. 而且在该实验中没有记录到与手术相关的并发症.

Zhou等人^[13]检测了PADN对慢性PAH动物的疗效和可行性. 用去氢野百合碱诱导慢性PAH犬4周, 实验为了减少偏倚设置了假手术组, 实施PADN后血流动力学以及肺动脉重构和右心室功能均得到显著改善. 其他研究团队的实验也支持上述结果, Rothman等人^[16]在猪模型中使用了消融导管, 并得到类似研究结果, 本团队^[17]在主动脉结扎导致心力衰竭的动物中进行了另一项实验研究. Zhou等人^[13]也证实了PADN对肺交感神经传导速度的持久降低和损伤.

4 PADN改善临床结果的证据

上述临床前的实验数据提供了PADN治疗PAH和PH的理论依据. 因此, 本团队^[18]在2013年设计了第一项人体研究, 包括13例特发性PAH患者, 最大剂量靶向药物对他们的治疗效果差, 另外8例患者作为对照组. 结果显示, 术后即刻mPAP降低20%, 3个月随访时降低

35%, 伴有NT-pro BNP降低和右心室功能改善. 在3个月的随访中, 6-MWD在PADN组增加了近92 m, 与实验研究相似, 未发现手术相关并发症. 接着, 本团队^[19]在中国多中心进行了一项66例患者的注册研究, 在后续的研究中发现, mPAP术后平均降低约为10%~15%, 在1年的随访中, 术后3个月监测mPAP, PVR和RV功能得到改善, 在3个月和12个月之间, 血流动力学未见明显恶化. 在66名对靶向药物没有良好反应的患者中, 有4名患者被定义为对PADN治疗无反应, 因为PADN治疗后mPAP降低不到10%. 在1年的随访中, 报道的66名患有这种严重疾病的患者中, PAH相关死亡率不到15%. 心包积液是反映肺动脉高压严重程度的变量之一, 本团队也发现心包积液深度>1 cm是PADN手术无反应的一个独立因素. 幸运的是, 经PADN治疗后, 心包积液在1年的随访时间内逐渐减少. 目前的PADN-CFDA研究是一项多中心、随机、假手术对照研究, 旨在进一步验证PADN的有效性和安全性(NCT03282266).

心力衰竭是大多数心血管疾病的常见终末状态^[20]. 左心室充盈压力增加后向传导导致肺静脉压力升高, 这种状态被称为孤立性毛细血管后性肺动脉高压(isolated post-capillary PH, Ipc-PH), 没有PVR或舒张压梯度(diastolic pulmonary gradient, DPG)升高^[21~23]. Fayyaz等人^[24]报道, PH与肺血管重构相关联, 导致混合性毛细血管后性肺动脉高压(combined pre-capillary and post-capillary PH, Cpc-PH), 这是定义为DPG≥7 mmHg, 和/或PVR>3 WU^[22,23]. 虽然PH的存在是心衰患者临床结局不佳的一个标志^[2,20], 但对于Cpc-PH的常规治疗与针对肺动脉高压的靶向药物治疗存在争议^[25,26]. 本团队^[17]的临床前研究已经证实了在伴有PH的心衰动物的肺动脉平滑肌细胞上α-肾上腺素能受体的过表达, 这一发现表明, PADN对第Ⅱ大类PH患者可能有好处. 据此, 本团队^[27]设计了多中心、随机、假手术对照的PADN-5试验, 入组98名Cpc-PH患者, 在6个月的随访中, PADN组6-MWD平均增加83 m, 西地那非组增加15 m, 6-MWD的下降与临床结局密切相关($P=0.04$). 与PVR降低3.4%($P<0.001$)和临床恶化率40%($P=0.014$)的西地那非组相比, PADN组PVR显著降低(29.8%), 临床恶化率降低(16.7%). 在研究结束时, 有7例全因死亡和2例栓塞事件. 在该研究中, PADN组右心导管测量的右房压在随访6个月期间没有变化, 可能的解释是随访时间较短(只有6个月), 样本量小可能

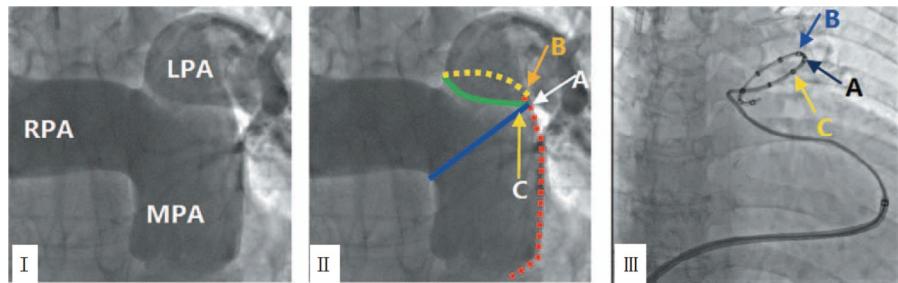


图 2 肺动脉造影及肺动脉去神经术靶点选择. 图 I 肺动脉造影(正位头20°); 图 II 红线表示主肺动脉的侧壁, 绿线表示左肺动脉的前壁, 红线及绿线的交界点标记为A点; 黄线表示左肺动脉的后壁, 与红线的交界点标记为B点, 位于A点后方1~2 mm处; 蓝线表示右肺动脉下壁开口处与A点的连线, C点位于蓝线的A点前壁的1~2 mm处; 图III显示10级环状射频电极位于主肺动脉及左肺动脉开口处, 在A, B及C点分别消融. (引自文献[19])

Figure 2 Pulmonary artery angiography and target selection for pulmonary denervation. I: Pulmonary arterial angiography (anteroposterior 20°); II: the red line indicates the lateral wall of the main pulmonary artery, and the green line represents the anterior wall of the left pulmonary artery. The point where the 2 lines intersect is point A. The yellow line represents the posterior wall of the left pulmonary artery. The junction with the red line is marked as point B, which is 1 to 2 mm posterior to point A. The blue line starts from the inferior wall of the right pulmonary artery and ends at point A, and point C localizes at this level and 1 to 2 mm anterior to point A. III: The grade 10 ring-shaped radio frequency electrode was located at the openings of the main pulmonary artery and left pulmonary artery and ablated at points A, B, and C, respectively. (Refer to figure in Ref. [19])

是右心房压未达到阳性结果的另一个原因.

此外, 俄罗斯^[28]的另一项研究应用PADN治疗16例PAH患者显著改善了血流动力学参数, 增加了6-MWD. 在另一项来自日本的小型研究中, 刺激肺动脉干及其分支确定了与心率减慢或血压降低相关的靶部位, 在该研究中, 研究者没有发现mPAP和PVR的实际降低, 但在PADN术后4个月血流动力学有显著改善^[29]. 在一个有胸部肿瘤的病人中, 有报道提示低剂量射频能量可引起肺动脉压降低^[30].

5 PADN的关键技术要点

通过颈(或股)静脉入路的Swan-Ganz导管在术前、术中和术后完成血流动力学测量. 对于一些不能憋气而导致PAWP测量不准确的患者, 用猪尾导管从左心室测量左心室舒张末压. PADN可以用如下所述的简单方式完成.

第一步: 肺动脉血管造影(pulmonary artery angiography, PAA, 图2). 即使是CT血管造影也能提供一些重要的信息, 如排除血栓、了解血管直径及肺动脉分叉位置等, 推荐标准操作是股静脉入路进行

PAA^[18,19,27]. 我们推荐2个体位(后前位20°, 后前位20°头位20°), 以最大限度地分辨肺动脉左右分支.

第二步: 确定消融部位. 如图2 II所示, 红线为主肺动脉(main pulmonary artery, MPA)的侧壁, 蓝线为左肺动脉(left pulmonary artery, LPA)的前壁, 两条线交点为A点; 黄线(左肺动脉的后壁)与红线交点为B点, 在A点后方1~2 mm处; 绿线起自右肺动脉下壁, 止于A点, C点位于此水平, 距A点前1~2 mm. 一个8F长鞘插入并推进到主肺动脉. 在远端MPA处沿长鞘放置一根带有10个电极的PADN导管, 电极A, B, C分别在A, B, C点. 肺动脉消融在主肺动脉及左肺动脉开口处(A点、B点和C点)的邻近部位进行. 以下是每一点的消融参数: 温度≥45°C, 功率≤20 W, 时间120 s(C点)或240 s(A和B点). 如果病人报告严重的胸痛, 该过程可以中断10 s.

6 结论

交感神经过度激活在PAH/PH的进展中起着重要作用, 是临床预后的独立预测因素. PADN是一种很有前景的介入治疗方法. 在将PADN推荐用于PAH的常规治疗之前, 还需要进一步研究.

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Update on pulmonary artery denervation for pulmonary hypertension

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Sympathetic hyperactivation plays an important role in the progression of pulmonary hypertension. Pulmonary artery denervation (PADN) is a promising interventional method for pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH) treatment using 10-electrode ablation catheter. This review describes the location of the pulmonary sympathetic nerve, the key steps of PADN, and clinical trial outcomes in patients with the first category of PAH or combined pre-capillary and post-capillary pulmonary hypertension.

pulmonary hypertension, sympathetic nerve, pulmonary artery denervation, ablation, 10-electrode ablation catheter, clinical trial

doi: [10.1360/ SSV-2021-0300](https://doi.org/10.1360/SSV-2021-0300)