

## 综述

## 脂质代谢在系统性硬化症中的作用

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**摘要:** 系统性硬化症(systemic sclerosis, SSc)是一种罕见的自身免疫性疾病, 以皮肤和器官慢性炎症性纤维化为主要表现, 在所有风湿性疾病中死亡率最高。脂质代谢是指脂质在体内摄取、合成、分解的综合过程, 可调节细胞稳态, 促进血管病变、纤维化和炎症, 近年来成为SSc研究的焦点。本文以SSc中的动脉粥样硬化特性为切入点, 综述脂类代谢失调及相关介质与SSc发病机制的密切关系, 以期为SSc的临床研究和治疗提供新的思路。

**关键词:** 系统性硬化症; 脂质代谢; 脂肪酸氧化; 脂肪因子; 氧化应激

## Roles of lipid metabolism in systemic sclerosis

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**Abstract:** Systemic sclerosis (SSc) is a rare autoimmune disease characterised by chronic inflammatory fibrosis of the skin, and organs and has the highest mortality rate of any rheumatic disease. Lipid metabolism, the integrated process of lipid uptake, synthesis, and catabolism in the body, which regulates cellular homeostasis and promotes vasculopathy, fibrosis, and inflammation, has become the focus of research in SSc in recent years. Taking the atherosclerotic features of in SSc as a breakthrough point, this work reviews the close relationship between dysregulation of lipid metabolism and related mediators and the pathogenesis of SSc, to provide new ideas for clinical research and treatment of SSc.

**Key Words:** systemic sclerosis; lipid metabolism; fatty acid oxidation; adipokines; oxidative stress

系统性硬化症(systemic sclerosis, SSc)是一种罕见的炎症性自身免疫性疾病, 显著的病理特征是皮肤和器官细胞外基质的异常和过度沉积, 通常不同程度累及内脏器官, 临床表现具有高度异质性<sup>[1]</sup>。尽管SSc患病率相对较低, 但在所有风湿性疾病中死亡率最高, 其中间质性肺病(interstitial

lung disease, ILD)及肺动脉高压(pulmonary artery hypertension, PAH)是SSc相关死亡的主要原因, 疾病负担相当沉重<sup>[2,3]</sup>。通常根据皮肤受累的分布将SSc分为局限性皮肤SSc和弥漫性皮肤SSc两个临床亚群。随着研究深入, 发现此分类未能考虑基于器官的并发症的变异性, 提倡通过结合自身抗

收稿日期: 2023-10-15

基金项目: 国家自然科学基金项目(81974250); 南充市科技项目(20SXCXTD0002, 20SXQT0308)

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体特异性和皮肤受累程度能对患者进行更精确的风险分层<sup>[4]</sup>。SSc机制非常复杂,其发病起源于遗传、环境等各种触发因素促成的稳态改变,免疫激活和随后的血管病变导致成纤维细胞激活及纤维化是这些过程的最终效应<sup>[1]</sup>。由于SSc早期症状常不典型,临床医生难以在疾病初期明确诊断,对于预防严重内脏器官受累和针对性的有效治疗是一个严重挑战<sup>[5]</sup>。

脂质主要包括脂肪酸、磷脂(甘油磷脂和鞘脂)、中性脂质(甘油三酯和胆固醇酯),其中脂肪酸是所有脂质的组成部分,可以合成其他脂质<sup>[6]</sup>。脂质代谢是上述脂质摄取、合成、消耗的过程,在调节细胞稳态中起重要作用<sup>[7]</sup>,与许多自身免疫性疾病的发展密切相关,如类风湿关节炎、系统性红斑狼疮、干燥综合征、多发性硬化等<sup>[8-10]</sup>。随着代谢组学的发展,逐渐发现SSc患者中脂质的循环水平紊乱<sup>[11,12]</sup>,这些脂质可能促进炎症和纤维化,导致SSc发病和进展<sup>[13,14]</sup>。因此,本研究结合SSc患者脂质代谢的特点,综述SSc中动脉粥样硬化特性和脂肪酸代谢失调,分析脂肪因子和生物活性脂质的作用,并探索脂质代谢与氧化应激之间的可能关系,为SSc早期疾病检测及新药物的发现提供新的策略。

## 1 SSc中的动脉粥样硬化

大动脉受累被认为是SSc中的一部分,与炎症、氧化应激和内皮功能障碍有关,脂质在其中扮演了重要角色<sup>[15]</sup>。高密度脂蛋白(high-density lipoprotein, HDL)具有抗炎及抗动脉粥样硬化特性,胆固醇外排能力(cholesterol efflux capacity, CEC)反映了HDL接受巨噬细胞胆固醇的能力,CEC与心血管事件的发生率呈负相关,在患有严重颈动脉粥样硬化的受试者中,CEC的增加与脂肪因子具有强烈的相关性<sup>[16]</sup>。一项横断面研究表明,与对照组相比SSc患者的总胆固醇、HDL、低密度脂蛋白、载脂蛋白A1和CEC在统计学上显著下调,而甘油三酯、脂蛋白A、载脂蛋白A1/B比值和致动脉粥样硬化指数上调,在SSc患者中CEC与改良的Rodnan皮肤评分(modified Rodnan skin score, mRSS)也呈负相关<sup>[11]</sup>。单核细胞与HDL比值(monocyte/high density lipoprotein ratio, MHR)亦被

视为炎症标志物,可反映炎症和动脉粥样硬化,在SSc患者中血清MHR升高,且与手指溃疡(digital ulcer, DU)风险增加和皮肤纤维化的严重程度显著相关<sup>[17]</sup>。因此,这些脂类物质可能引起过早的动脉硬化风险,有望成为SSc不良心血管事件的预测指标。尽管了解了脂质代谢异常在SSc中引起动脉粥样硬化的作用,但对其中的具体机制仍知之甚少。

## 2 脂质代谢与SSc

我们综合了SSc与脂质代谢水平的异常关系,将从脂肪组织减少、脂肪因子不平衡、脂肪酸氧化增加及生物活性脂质紊乱等方面进行总结(图1)。

### 2.1 脂肪组织在纤维化和血管病变中的作用

肌成纤维细胞是参与SSc纤维化进展的关键效应细胞,可以活化潜伏的转化生长因子- $\beta$  (transforming growth factor- $\beta$ , TGF- $\beta$ )<sup>[18]</sup>。脂肪组织是成纤维细胞的重要贡献者。有研究表明,纤维化皮肤中的肌成纤维细胞也来源于真皮白色脂肪组织(dermal white adipose tissue, dWAT)中的脂联素阳性祖细胞,dWAT是一种独特的脂肪组织,完整的真皮脂肪生成与健康的dWAT是抑制皮肤纤维化所必需的<sup>[19]</sup>。有研究SSc小鼠模型中观察到,dWAT缺失和病变皮肤中成脂标志物的表达下降,且先于真皮纤维化和纤维化标志物的表达,涉及脂肪细胞-肌成纤维细胞转化过程<sup>[20,21]</sup>。dWAT的丢失常伴有过氧化物酶体增殖激活受体- $\gamma$  (peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor- $\gamma$ , PPAR- $\gamma$ )的下调<sup>[20]</sup>。PPAR- $\gamma$ 是脂类代谢和脂肪生成的主要调节因子,可直接抑制TGF- $\beta$ /Smad3等信号传导途径,改善慢性纤维化和PAH<sup>[22]</sup>。有研究发现,SSc患者皮肤活检中PPAR- $\gamma$ 表达和活性明显受损<sup>[23]</sup>,其中前列腺素类药物如15d-PGJ2可充当内源性PPAR- $\gamma$ 抑制肺纤维化,噻唑烷二酮类药物如罗格列酮、吡格列酮亦是PPAR- $\gamma$ 的有效激动剂,可抑制肌成纤维细胞分化或逆转PAH<sup>[23-25]</sup>。有趣的是,自体脂肪移植和脂肪来源的干细胞移植可诱导患者或纤维化小鼠模型的真皮脂肪再生并减少炎症和纤维化,还能改善难治性手指溃疡<sup>[26,27]</sup>,进一步证明了脂肪

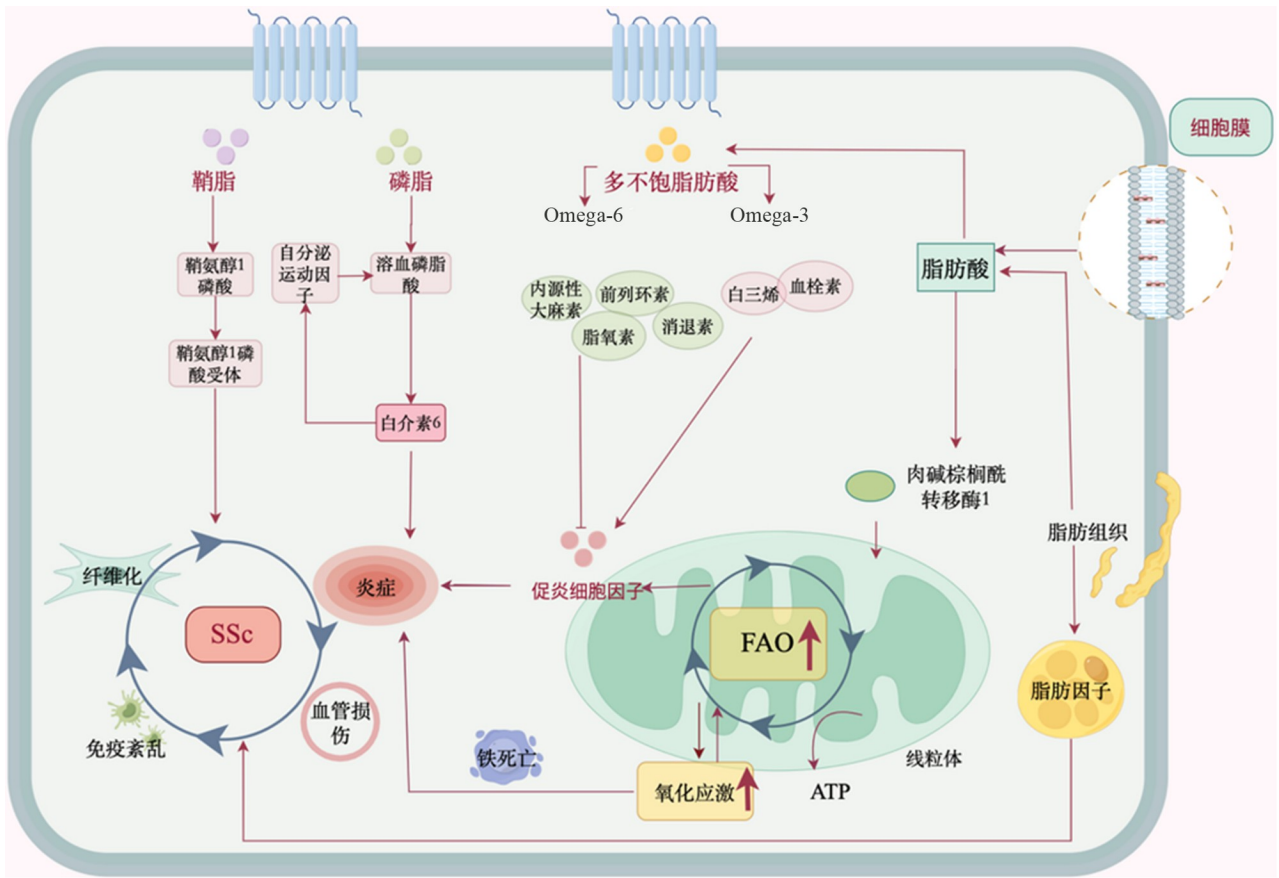


图1 脂质代谢在SSc中的作用机制

组织在SSc的发病机制中发挥重要作用。

## 2.2 脂肪因子

脂肪因子是一组从脂肪组织分泌的肽,通过自分泌、旁分泌和内分泌途径激活并影响全身脂质代谢,脂肪细胞丢失或向肌成纤维细胞转化导致的脂肪因子不平衡可能参与调节免疫细胞活化、血管功能和纤维化,与SSc发病机制相关<sup>[21]</sup>。目前,对脂联素、瘦素、抵抗素的研究较多,脂联素是一种由PPAR- $\gamma$ 直接调节的脂肪因子,对SSc成纤维细胞中的胶原基因表达和肌成纤维细胞分化有明显的抑制作用<sup>[28]</sup>。研究表明,SSc患者血清和纤维化病变皮肤的脂联素水平降低,与疾病活动度、严重程度和持续时间呈负相关,用合成激动剂ADP355靶向细胞脂联素受体可有效减轻模型小鼠皮肤纤维化,且耐受性良好<sup>[29]</sup>。与脂联素相反,瘦素能促进炎症和纤维化<sup>[21]</sup>。SSc患者dWAT缺乏,但血清瘦素升高,其中合并PAH或ILD的血清瘦素显著高于单纯SSc患者,这可能与脂肪细胞

功能障碍或不同来源的细胞分泌瘦素有关<sup>[30]</sup>。抵抗素与瘦素作用相似,人类脂肪细胞中抵抗素的表达非常低,其主要来源是外周血免疫细胞-单核及巨噬细胞。抵抗素在微血管损伤和内皮功能障碍中起重要作用,在SSc患者血清中抵抗素水平升高,新发DU患者相比无DU患者血清抵抗素水平增高,抵抗素可能作为SSc患者新发DU的预测标志物<sup>[31]</sup>。其他脂肪因子如adipsin(一种丝氨酸蛋白酶)也与SSc合并PAH相关<sup>[32]</sup>。

## 2.3 脂肪酸氧化(fatty acid oxidation, FAO)

dWAT的缺失和脂肪因子的不平衡表明脂肪酸代谢可能是SSc疾病进展的促成因素。一项分析SSc与肺癌中免疫相关基因的研究中,脂肪酸代谢相关基因在SSc及肺癌中的表达均上调,推测可能由于FAO增加导致免疫调节紊乱<sup>[12]</sup>。Ottria等<sup>[33]</sup>也证明了SSc中FAO增强,其中依托泊苷可通过抑制肉碱转运蛋白OCTN2而阻断FAO,下调炎症反应并显示出抗纤维化特性。在SSc合并PAH患者肺动

脉中编码胞质和线粒体FAO酶的mRNA显著上调,用对羟基苯甘氨酸阻断肉碱棕榈酰转移酶1抑制FAO酶,可通过重塑肺动脉和扩张血管减轻PAH<sup>[34]</sup>。FAO可能与炎症反应、纤维化、血管病变之间存在重要联系,靶向抑制FAO相关酶可能抑制SSc疾病进展。

## 2.4 生物活性脂质与SSc

生物活性脂质是指多不饱和脂肪酸(polyunsaturated fatty acids, PUFAs)和磷脂、鞘脂等一系列内源性衍生物,在炎症、免疫调节、脂质稳态中起着关键作用,其代谢紊乱与许多慢性炎症性疾病的发病机制有关<sup>[35]</sup>。我们重点关注其中研究较多的四大类:类花生酸、内源性大麻素、溶血磷脂及特异性促炎症消退介质,讨论它们的代谢和信号传导及其参与SSc发病的可能机制。

### 2.4.1 类花生酸

类花生酸包括来源于花生四烯酸的促炎omega-6 PUFAs和来源于二十碳五烯酸、二十二碳六烯酸的抗炎omega-3 PUFAs,如前列腺素、血栓素、白三烯和脂氧素(lipoxins, LXs)等,它们通常由花生四烯酸通过环氧合酶、脂氧合酶(lipoxygenase, LOX)、细胞色素P450三条途径代谢衍生而来,是有效的自分泌和旁分泌生物活性介质,在调节炎症和纤维化方面起关键作用<sup>[35,36]</sup>。前列环素类似物伊洛前列素是治疗SSc重度雷诺现象、DU、PAH的首选药物,它不仅能通过抑制免疫和炎症因子改善血管损伤<sup>[37]</sup>,还能降低促纤维化细胞因子的水平来抑制皮肤纤维化<sup>[38]</sup>。白三烯是花生四烯酸在5-LOX及其相关蛋白的作用下产生的,是炎症的有效介质。临床研究表明,SSc患者血清及支气管肺泡灌洗液中白三烯B4合成增加,表现出促炎和促纤维化特性<sup>[39,40]</sup>,白三烯B4及其受体可能通过PI3K/Akt/mTOR途径直接促进成纤维细胞-肌成纤维细胞和内皮-间充质转化,阻断SSc小鼠模型中的白三烯B4-白三烯B4受体轴,显著减轻真皮及肺纤维化<sup>[41]</sup>。这些结果提示,类花生酸的平衡变化可能通过刺激成纤维细胞活化和纤维化进展而促进SSc的发病,使其成为治疗纤维化疾病的潜在目标。

### 2.4.2 内源性大麻素

内源性大麻素常充当促稳态调节剂,参与血管

生成、细胞代谢、免疫功能和血管张力等多种病理生理过程<sup>[35]</sup>。目前研究最多的内源性大麻素是2-花生四烯酰甘油和花生四烯乙醇胺。它们均是花生四烯酸的衍生物,主要通过结合大麻素受体1(cannabinoid receptor type 1, CB1)和受体2(CB2)来发挥免疫调节作用<sup>[42]</sup>。在一项59例SSc患者代谢组学分析中观察到2-花生四烯酰甘油明显增加<sup>[13]</sup>。CB2基因敲除小鼠对激动先天免疫反应的不同刺激产生过度炎症和纤维化,CB2激动剂Lenabasum可通过减少Toll样受体信号传导、NLRP3炎症小体活化和诱导巨噬细胞M1转化为M2等,抑制SSc中的炎症和纤维化通路,并具有良好的安全性<sup>[43]</sup>。四氢大麻酚类似物Ajulemic acid也是CB1和CB2的弱配体,可能通过激活PPAR- $\gamma$ 信号传导阻断SSc成纤维细胞中的TGF- $\beta$ 释放,上调其内源性配体15d-PGJ2的表达<sup>[44]</sup>。因此,激活CB可能有益于SSc中的炎症和纤维化。

### 2.4.3 溶血磷脂

溶血磷脂由磷脂酶介导的膜甘油磷脂和鞘脂水解产生,主要包括溶血磷脂酸(lysophosphatidic acid, LPA)和鞘氨醇-1-磷酸(sphingosine-1-phosphate, S1P)<sup>[45]</sup>。自分泌运动因子(autotaxin, ATX)具有溶血磷脂酶D活性,可将溶血磷脂酰胆碱转化为LPA,通过LPA受体参与信号传导。目前已发现6种LPA受体(LPA受体1-6),其中3种LPA受体拮抗剂已进入SSc的II期临床试验<sup>[46]</sup>。在SSc小鼠模型中发现,LPA-LPA1受体诱导IL6合成与IL6诱导ATX表达两条通路可相互促进驱动纤维化进展,同时观察到,在博来霉素注射后ATX水平升高,但随着dWAT的缺失ATX显著下降,由此推测,除了成纤维细胞外,脂肪细胞是ATX的另一重要来源<sup>[47]</sup>。S1P信号传导在免疫系统和内皮稳态中亦起关键作用,S1P可以结合与激活五种不同的鞘氨醇1磷酸受体(sphingosine 1 phosphate receptor, S1PR),即S1PR1-5。其中,S1PR1、S1PR2在维持血管功能和血压稳态中起重要作用,S1PR2、S1PR3与炎症和组织损伤有关,可促进细胞外基质沉积和组织纤维化。Gluschke等<sup>[48]</sup>描述了S1PR可能构成自身抗原,SSc中天然S1PR自身抗体阳性的患病率增加,与PAH和ILD相关。基于ATX-LPA轴和S1P信号通路介导纤维化和血管稳态

作用, 提示LPA/ATX抑制剂和S1PR调节剂可能成为SSc、ILD或PAH的潜在治疗靶位。

#### 2.4.4 特异性促炎症消退介质(specialized pro-resolving mediators, SPMs)

与经典类花生酸类似, SPMs也是由PUFAs通过一系列酶解产生的脂质, 不仅能抑制促炎细胞因子、诱导产生抗炎介质, 还具有抗纤维化特性, 在SSc患者和动物模型中研究较少。LXs的产生与12/15-LOX有关, 启动炎症的消退阶段并发挥有效的抗炎作用<sup>[36]</sup>。博来霉素诱导的12/15-LOX缺陷小鼠, 真皮纤维化易感性增加, 脂氧素A4(LXA4)显著减少, 因此12/15-LOX-LXA4是组织纤维化反应的关键负调节因子<sup>[49]</sup>。消退素主要由二十碳五烯酸和二十二碳六烯酸衍生而来, 在SSc中表现出抑制免疫细胞活化、限制炎症反应及直接抗纤维化作用<sup>[50]</sup>。SPMs家族是否有望成为SSc中促进炎症消退或延缓病情的治疗靶点, 其作用需进一步实验研究。

### 3 脂质代谢与SSc中的氧化应激

氧化应激是氧化与抗氧化系统之间不平衡的状态, 导致活性氧的过度产生, 通常与脂质过氧化和脂质代谢紊乱有关。有研究表明, SSc患者体内发生氧化应激, 来自SSc纤维化或病变皮肤的标本均显示出较高的活性氧水平, 可激活内皮细胞、成纤维细胞、B细胞、T细胞和巨噬细胞来促进自身免疫和慢性炎症<sup>[51]</sup>。此外, 血液中有关脂质过氧化产物如丙二醛、不对称二甲基精氨酸、8-异前列烷、F2-异前列烷等的水平增高<sup>[52]</sup>。而且氧化应激可能影响单核/巨噬细胞极化、内皮细胞和成纤维细胞活化, 触发促炎细胞因子的产生, 参与NLRP3小体的激活, 进一步促进SSc发展<sup>[1]</sup>。铁死亡是由铁依赖性磷脂过氧化驱动的新型程序性细胞死亡方式, 活性氧的毒性积累可触发脂质过氧化诱发铁死亡, 引起炎症导致组织损伤<sup>[53]</sup>。Zhang等<sup>[54]</sup>通过分析基因数据集发现, SSc-ILD肺成纤维细胞中差异表达铁死亡相关基因, 即铁死亡抗性基因*NR4A1*、*GXP4*和促铁死亡基因*SAT1*、*NCOA4*, 表明SSc-ILD具有较高的铁死亡活性。因此, 调节脂质代谢平衡可能通过改善氧化应激在SSc疾病早期发挥作用。

### 4 小结

SSc作为一种复杂且罕见的自身免疫性疾病, 常因误诊或漏诊而延误诊断, 治疗效果及预后欠佳, 目前其发病机制仍不确切。脂肪酸代谢、脂肪因子和生物活性脂质的失调可能参与了SSc的发病, LTs、LPA、S1P等可以促进SSc的炎症和纤维化, 而PPAR- $\gamma$ 、CB、SPMs等却对SSc有抗炎和抗纤维化作用。此外, 脂质代谢可能在SSc的氧化应激中发挥调控作用。本文综述了脂质代谢与SSc的相关作用, 有利于挖掘脂质代谢相关指标成为SSc早期诊断或预后的生物标志物, 探索靶向干预脂质代谢或能成为阻断SSc进展的有效途径。

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