

中药鼻腔给药技术研究进展

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摘要:【目的】中药鼻腔给药技术具有给药方便、靶向性好、生物利用度高、吸收速度快等优势,该剂型成为中药新型给药制剂研发的热点。对近年来中药鼻腔给药技术的相关文献进行整理,旨在为中药鼻腔给药技术的研究发展提供参考。【研究现状】综述中药滴鼻剂、气雾剂、粉雾剂、凝胶剂、膜剂、微乳剂等几个中药鼻腔给药常用剂型的特点及应用,总结中药药理及药代动力学、质量控制、刺激性研究、装置开发等方面的研究进展。【结论与展望】中药鼻腔给药技术已经广泛应用到临床且效果值得肯定,但目前中药鼻腔给药技术仍然存在处方优化、技术受限、缺少有效质量控制方法等问题,今后的研究应在处方优化、装置开发和辅料开发等方面,不断完善中药鼻腔给药的质量控制体系。

关键词: 中药; 鼻腔给药技术; 质量控制

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中药鼻腔给药是以鼻腔为用药部位,将中草药及其制剂以一定的剂型置于鼻腔内,经过鼻黏膜吸收而发挥局部或全身治疗作用的新型中药制剂,其中包括滴鼻剂、洗剂、乳剂、气雾剂、喷雾剂、粉雾剂、吸嗅剂、凝胶剂、膜剂等剂型。相较于注射剂或口服制剂等传统剂型而言,中药鼻腔给药因具有给药方便、靶向性好、安全性高、吸收速度快等优势,对于治疗上呼吸道感染等病症具有较好的疗效,因此,该剂型在近年来得到广泛应用,也成为了中药新型给药制剂研发的一个热点。本文中对中药鼻腔给药技术研究进展进行综述,对其理论基础、常用剂型、药理及药代动力学、质量控制进行介绍,并对其研发及应用前景进行展望。

1 中药鼻腔给药技术的理论基础

早在隋朝时期,我国就有了中药肺部吸入治疗疾病的给药记录,隋朝医家崔知悌利用中药燃烧的烟气治疗久咳不愈的病症。我国古代医家对这种给药方式给予高度评价:“药气从口、鼻孔中直达肺,通经贯络,透彻周身,卒病治疴,从症用之,以助服药之所不及”。中医学将鼻归为清窍,药物经鼻吸收入体内具有“通关”之效,而“纳鼻通关”一直以来是中医治疗上焦急症的重要给药途径之一,因此,中药鼻腔给药是中药剂型中不可或缺的一部分,并且成为中药新型给药制剂中的一大热点。《黄帝内经》中记载的取嚏法是鼻腔给药的另一种实践,可以起到助益肺气、宣发体内寒气从而达到预防和治疗感冒的作用。张仲景《伤寒杂病论》中记载,以“韭捣汁,灌鼻中”,治“卒死”,此方开创了鼻腔给药治疗急症的先河;葛洪《肘后备急方》中以药入鼻治疗“卒死中恶”,以赤散入鼻吸之,治疗瘟疫、疫疔、瘴气等;李时珍在《本草纲目》中记载将巴豆油抹在纸上燃烧,其烟雾熏鼻能够治疗休克、中风、中毒等病症。总结前人对纳鼻法的研究,可将其归纳为探、滴、灌、噓、嗅、熏、塞、涂8大类^[1-3]。这些中医药古籍中

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记载了许多中药鼻腔给药的案例,这些案例奠定了中药鼻腔给药制剂研究的基础,为中药鼻腔给药制剂的现代研究提供了宝贵的经验。

随着中药鼻腔给药技术在临床应用的增多,其优势也逐渐显现出来。鼻腔给药相较于注射剂或口服制剂等传统给药方式具有生物利用度高、吸收速度快、给药方便等优势,尤其适用于昏迷患者^[4-6]。口服制剂想要发挥治疗神经性疾病的效果必须透过血脑屏障(blood brain barrier, BBB)。血脑屏障在保护大脑免受药物侵害的同时,造成了口服制剂的脑渗透性和生物利用度低的问题。鼻腔给药可以绕过血脑屏障,是减少药物不良反应、降低给药剂量和提高药物生物利用度的有效途径之一^[7-9]。二十世纪90年代以来,通过“鼻-脑”间的嗅区通路治疗脑部疾病的作用机制成为一个研究热点。嗅区通路指的是药物经鼻黏膜吸收后,由嗅神经元轴突末梢摄取,转运至嗅球及前脑区域,进入中枢系统的路径。这种作用机制能够绕过BBB转运至中枢神经系统(central nervous system, CNS),使药物分子发挥局部作用或吸收入血发挥全身作用^[10-11]。此外,研究表明,中药鼻腔给药技术也可在某些疾病治疗中发挥辅助治疗作用,如在新型冠状病毒肺炎(coronavirus disease 2019, COVID-19)的治疗中,配合治疗方案使用香囊、中药熏蒸等方法可大大提高治愈率^[12-13]。

2 中药鼻腔给药常用剂型及其优缺点

2.1 滴鼻剂

滴鼻剂(nasal drops)是将药物以溶液的状态滴入鼻腔的剂型, pH 一般为5.5~5.7。该剂型制备简单,成本低,患者顺从性高,是常用的鼻用制剂之一。中药滴鼻剂可以治疗多种疾病,如鼻腔疾病、心血管疾病、脑血管疾病、感冒和偏头痛等。Liu等^[14]建立大鼠卵清蛋白诱导过敏性鼻炎的大鼠模型,然后对大鼠模型使用玉屏风滴鼻液药物,研究其对过敏性鼻炎大鼠鼻腔黏膜血清细胞、组织病理学及嗜酸性粒细胞阳离子蛋白的影响。结果表明,玉屏风滴鼻液可以治疗大鼠模型的过敏性鼻炎。Yip等^[15]采用网络药理学分析,对COVID-19常见的基因靶点进行检测,确定了过敏性鼻炎滴鼻剂(allergic rhinitis nose drops, ARND)对病毒感染具有抑制作用,研究结合使用炎症和纤维化细胞模型,结果表明,ARND不仅抑制假病毒感染,破坏血管紧张素转化酶2(angiotensin converting enzyme 2, ACE2)与刺突蛋白之间的结合,还减弱了感染后的炎症反应,并可能带来更低的肺纤维化风险。ARND可视为预防COVID-19感染的药物。慢性鼻炎、鼻窦炎是一种常见的健康问题,严重影响人们的生活质量。香菇多糖滴鼻剂具有抗病毒、抗肿瘤等药理作用,并且可以抑制COVID-19的感染; Fan等^[16]将香菇多糖滴鼻剂与安慰剂作为对照,通过剂量递增研究香菇多糖滴鼻剂和安慰剂对COVID-19感染患者中的安全性和有效性,结果表明,香菇多糖滴鼻剂具有良好的安全性,耐受性良好,可以缩短病毒清除时间。氯喹滴鼻剂对于COVID-19的预防具有一定潜力^[17]。鼻腔倍他米松滴剂在COVID-19相关嗅觉丧失症中嗅觉恢复中没有显著的治疗效果^[18]。Qian等^[19]探讨了爱氯胺酮滴鼻液对儿童低温血浆消融扁桃体切除术后疼痛的影响,结果表明,爱氯胺酮滴鼻液具有良好的安全性,可以减轻疼痛并缩短回复时间。滴鼻剂对于鼻腔和肺部疾病具有其他传统剂型(如颗粒剂、丸剂、注射剂等)不可比拟的专属优势,因此,对于药物在滴鼻剂方面的开发具有广阔的前景。

2.2 鼻用气雾剂

气雾剂(aerosols)是将药物、混悬液等封装于特制容器中,借助压力将容器内的内容物喷出,作用于药用部位的制剂。气雾剂与注射剂和口服制剂等传统制剂相比,具有生物利用度高、用药量小、不良反应轻等优势;同时,中药气雾剂拥有相同的治疗效果,且在症状和体征的改善上治疗效果更加明显。Lu等^[20]探讨宽胸气雾剂对异丙肾上腺素诱导大鼠模型心肌损伤的影响,先对大鼠注射异丙肾上腺素建立急性心肌缺血大鼠模型,再通过对照组、低剂量和高剂量对大鼠模型进行胃部给药,实验结果表明,宽胸气雾剂降低了大鼠的心室间隔厚度、心脏质量指数,可以抑制钙的流入与释放,对血管具有舒张作用,从而改善心肌劳损伤。同样,Liu等^[21]研究宽胸气雾剂对兔急性心肌缺血模型的影响,结果表明,宽胸气雾剂可以预防急性心肌缺血,有助于血管扩张,并具有长效作用。尽管气雾剂具有避免肝脏首过效应、生物利用度高等优势,但是气雾剂均要在内容物中添加抛射剂、稳定剂、乳化剂和潜溶剂等具有

污染性的辅料^[22]。Sailer等^[23]表征了一种新型膨润土基触变凝胶乳液鼻气雾剂的流变性能及其鼻腔停留时间、分布、安全性和耐受性,该气雾剂在鼻上皮细胞中显示出对病毒(体外)和花粉(临床)的良好疗效和安全性,但是气雾剂可能对呼吸道造成刺激或过敏反应,并且气雾剂需要特定的容器、特殊的喷射用阀门系统,要求生产商具有较高的生产技术。

2.3 鼻用粉雾剂

粉雾剂(powder aerosols)是将药物粉末置于特殊给药装置,经鼻腔给药进入呼吸道,发挥药效作用的剂型。粉雾剂是在传统气雾剂的基础上,综合粉体学技术发展起来的新剂型。与气雾剂相比,粉雾剂不含抛射剂,药物以稳定性良好的粉末状存于给药装置内,干扰因素少。常用的粉雾剂有吸入、非吸入和外用粉雾剂,其中以吸入粉雾剂研究和应用最为广泛。粉雾剂经鼻腔吸入后作用于肺部,在治疗肺部炎症及流感病毒等疾病的效果显著^[24-26]。周波波等^[27]探讨九味固金胶囊联合噻托溴铵吸入粉雾剂治疗慢性阻塞性肺疾病的影响,结果表明,九味固金胶囊联合噻托溴铵吸入粉雾剂可以增强免疫调节,减缓疾病症状,对患者具有良好的治疗功效。市面上常见的鼻用粉雾剂有丙酸倍氯米松吸入粉雾剂、硫酸沙丁胺醇吸入粉雾剂以及热毒宁吸入粉雾剂等,主要功效为缓解哮喘症状、过敏性鼻炎、支气管痉挛以及清热疏风解毒。粉雾剂等固体制剂是将药物微粉化,实现药物微粉化的方法包括微粉化技术、结晶控制技术、喷雾干燥技术、超临界流体技术和冷冻干燥技术等。药物的理化性质包括粒径大小、粒径分布、密度等都会对制剂的流动性、吸入率和疗效造成重大影响。根据特定药物的物理和化学性质选用特定的粉体处理技术可以改善更加药动力学和药效学的目的,但鼻用粉雾剂也面临着挑战:一方面是粉雾剂的粒径需要控制在一定范围内,粒径太大或太小均无法到达鼻腔有效给药部位;另一方面是粉雾剂的给药装置、处方配伍使用的递送剂量及均一性等的安全性保障问题。

2.4 鼻用凝胶剂

凝胶剂(gels)指将药物与辅料混合制成均一、混悬或乳剂型的乳胶稠厚液体或半固体制剂。对比于气雾剂和粉雾剂,凝胶剂以乳胶稠厚液体或半固体形式作用于鼻腔黏膜。由于凝胶剂具有良好的生物膜黏性,因此可以增加药物在鼻腔黏膜的作用时间,增大药物的生物利用度,还可以减少给药的次数。刘婷婷等^[28]制备了含有柴胡挥发油与黄芩苷有效组分的鼻腔给药的凝胶剂,实验结果显示该凝胶剂具有显著的解热和抗炎作用,具有长效、速效等特点。谷福根等^[29]研究盐酸多奈哌齐鼻用温敏凝胶剂在大鼠脑组织内的药代动力学,具有良好的脑靶向性。中药凝胶剂具有长效性和靶向性,可大大提高治疗效果^[30]。Taymouri等^[31]开发了一种含有阿立哌唑负载转移体的鼻内靶向凝胶剂,该膜剂体内体外评估均取得良好结果。

2.5 鼻用膜剂

膜剂(films)是药剂领域的一大新型给药制剂。膜剂应用于鼻腔内时,受鼻腔黏膜温度影响熔化呈半固体状,能够延长药物在鼻腔内的停留和吸收时间,同时减轻药物的不良反应,并且膜剂的释药速度慢,作用时间长,可以减少用药次数,提高患者用药依从性。Nittayananta等^[32]研究姜黄素新型膜剂对严重急性呼吸系统综合征冠状病毒-2(severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus-2, SARS-CoV-2)和流行病毒感染的影响,数据显示,姜黄素膜剂可以抑制SARS-CoV-2和流行病毒感染。Inoue等^[33]使用真空干燥方法制备了一种鼻内应用的膜剂。Khute等^[34]开发了一种鼻腔给药的抗抑郁膜剂,该实验突出了鼻内给药系统的稳健性,增强了抗抑郁作用的药物特性、功效和生物利用度。目前,关于鼻腔膜剂的研究与临床试验并未成熟,鼻腔膜剂具有广阔的发展空间。

2.6 鼻用微乳剂

微乳剂(microemulsions, ME)是将药物与表面活性剂、黏度调节剂等经特定方法制得的稳定性良好的微乳制剂,具有药物分布均匀性好、稳定性高等优点。Mansour等^[35]研究表明,口服昂丹司琼和鼻内给药的微乳剂都能够减轻顺铂的不良反应,对于接受顺铂化疗的患者,微乳剂可以替代口服给药。司替戊醇(stiripentol, STP)是新一代抗癫痫药,仅用于口服给药,然而,它在酸性环境中极不稳定,并且不能在胃肠道中完全溶解。Meirinho等^[36]开发出STP鼻内微乳剂和2种变体,并表现出良好的生物利用度。Pailla等^[37]研究表明,佐替平脑靶向鼻内微乳剂能提高佐替平的溶解度、生物利用度、疗效及其理

化性质。复方甘草微乳剂^[38]药物释放稳定,对慢性湿疹有显著的治疗效果。和厚朴酚微乳剂可以治疗肺癌^[39]。青蒿素具有良好的抗疟性,Zech等^[40]开发出具有良好生物利用度的青蒿素微乳剂,并且该剂型易于制造同时稳定性高。在以鼻腔给药的给药体积受限的条件下,微乳剂不仅能够解决鼻腔给药载药量低的问题,还能增强药物的鼻黏膜吸收,具有很好的研究前景。

中药鼻腔给药常用剂型优缺点对比见表1所示。

表1 鼻腔给药常见剂型的优缺点对比

Tab. 1 Advantages and disadvantages of common dosage forms for nasal administration

Common dosage forms	Dosage classification	Advantages and disadvantages
Nasal drops	Nasal liquid preparation	They are easy to prepare and cost-effective, but they have inaccurate dosage uneven distribution in the nasal cavity, and are easily lost.
Powder aerosols	Nasal solid preparation	Their preparation does not require propellants and pressure devices, is environmentally friendly, has better stability, and has sustained and controlled release. However, they cannot deliver the drug effectively to the nasal cavity due to their varying particle sizes.
Aerosols, sprays	Nasal liquid preparation	They are evenly distributed in the nasal cavity, are not easy to lose, and can achieve bioavailability of 70%~80%. However, special injection valve systems and containers are required, which are costly to manufacture and contain propellants that may cause mucosal irritation.
Gels, films, microemulsion	Semi-solid nasal preparation	They can extend the residence time of the drug in the nasal mucosa, improving bioavailability and reducing administration frequency, while increasing drug loading. However, their preparation processes are complex and their efficacy is unstable.

3 中药鼻腔给药的药理及药代动力学研究

药物的理化性质对药物的鼻腔吸收起着重要的作用。如果药物体积大,亲脂性太强(不能溶解在鼻黏膜中)或电离程度高(带负电荷的颗粒被带负电荷的鼻黏膜排斥),则无法穿透黏膜,并且很大一部分被系统前降解和消除。鼻腔给药可能受到几个不同因素的影响:药物的pH影响其稳定性和电离程度,并可能刺激鼻黏膜。张力过大或张力过小的配方会改变纤毛运动,从而导致吸收降低。黏性制剂更容易与鼻黏膜接触,但同时它们可能较少被吸收。此外,表面、药物浓度和剂量、剂型的物理条件以及给药时头部的位置都对药物吸收过程起作用。一种是药物由鼻腔给药直接作用于鼻腔。用于局部治疗鼻腔发炎或鼻塞的鼻喷雾制剂或滴鼻剂几乎遍布全球,特别是疏水性药物或小分子量药物非常合适局部鼻腔给药^[41-42]。另一种是药物经鼻腔给药后药物由鼻腔传递至大脑。BBB位于神经血管单元的中央,由紧密闭合的单层血管网络组成,该网络受到形成大脑和脊髓毛细血管的极化内皮细胞的损害。该层阻止血液循环和大脑之间物质的自由交换^[43-44]。BBB调节代谢物的清除、中枢神经系统所需营养物质的吸收,并维持神经元环境的化学成分,以确保神经元功能不受损害。此外,血脑屏障还可以保护大脑免受血细胞、病原体、递质和神经毒性血浆成分的渗透。绕过血脑屏障的一种可能性是鞘内、脑室内或实质内注射,药物可以直接到达中枢神经系统的脑脊液。研究表明,鼻腔给药可以使药物越过BBB直接作用于大脑,是脑靶向性鼻腔给药的一大优势^[45-46]。另外一种鼻腔给药后通过多种转运途径可用于全身药物递送:通过跨细胞途径,主要是小分子亲脂性化合物穿过鼻上皮并通过血液或淋巴系统进入体循环。Shah等^[47]开发了一种通过鼻腔给药的乳化纳米乳液剂型的胰岛素,具有良好的降血糖作用。综上可知,脂溶性的药物经鼻给药后吸收快而有效,其药代动力学参数与静脉注射相似,一些药物的生物利用度可达100%,然而极性药物经鼻吸收较差,尤其是相对分子质量更大的蛋白质类药物的吸收率更低,因此在中药鼻腔给药制剂开发过程中要更多考虑药物性质。

4 中药鼻用制剂质量控制方法研究

目前中药鼻用制剂的质量控制方法主要包括定性鉴别、含量测定、指纹图谱等技术。中药鼻用制剂多含有挥发性成分,在进行含量测定的质量控制研究时常采用气相色谱法,此外,气相色谱-质谱法

(GC-MS)联用技术在含量测定时具有更加准确、高速等优势。郭王莹等^[48]将鹅不食草油微乳温敏凝胶鼻腔给药与口服给药对比研究发现,鹅不食草油微乳温敏凝胶鼻腔给药可使药效成分迅速起效,显著提高了药物的血药浓度和生物利用度,并建立了基于顶空气相色谱-质谱联用技术的体内定量分析方法。对于粉雾剂这类鼻用固体制剂,制备过程中存在一些关键参数,包括药物粉末的粒径分布、流动性、溶解度等。这些参数对药物质量有重要的影响,例如,药物的粒径分布对药物的吸入性能和药效发挥具有着重影响;较小粒径的药物颗粒容易悬浮在空气中,易于进入呼吸系统,提高药物吸入率,从而增加药物的生物利用度。同样,良好的流动性可以提高药物在吸入装置内均匀分布和吸入率。良好的药物溶解度可以使药物在体内较好地溶解而发挥药效作用。房玉良等^[49]通过实验分析了热毒宁吸入粉雾剂的外观形状、理化性质,进一步验证和完善了热毒宁吸入粉雾剂的质量标准。

目前中药鼻腔给药制剂仍缺乏有效的质量控制方法。由于中医多使用的中药复方具有多成分、多靶点、多通路的特点,同时非药效成分较多;多数中药的作用靶点、作用机制尚不清楚,有效成分尚不明确,提取分离较困难,因此难以建立适用的质量控制方法。此外,针对药物的量效关系及吸收代谢的研究较少且不深入,这些都增加了中药制剂质量标准制定的难度。建立体现中医药用药特色的质量控制方法,也是未来中药鼻用制剂质量控制研究的重点。

5 中药鼻腔给药对鼻腔的副作用研究

在设计有效和安全的药物配方时,安全性是一个关键问题。在开发过程中,不仅要考虑药物本身的安全性,还要考虑制剂中的活性成分和赋形剂。由于赋形剂自身的安全性和药物局部暴露时间的增加,赋形剂会降低最终药物产品的安全性。第一,药品的局部耐受性取决于许多因素,并且因人而异。环境因素(如温度和湿度)、心理因素以及个体生理因素(如感染、原有疾病或过敏)都会影响药物产品和鼻黏膜之间的局部相互作用。本文中仅考虑内在生物学因素。这些生物因素影响药物在鼻黏膜中的吸收,从而影响最终药物的毒理学特征。第二,与其他给药途径(如口服或静脉内应用)相比,使用鼻腔给药的主要优点之一是绕过代谢首过效应并降低全身不良反应的风险。许多全身副作用和对中枢神经系统的影响是该物质到达血液循环并穿过血脑屏障的能力的结果。在常规癫痫治疗中,当药物不能充分通过血脑屏障时,剂量不当和药物选择错误可能会发生抗癫痫药物耐药的问题^[50]。第三,在临床和组织学观察中研究较多的是药物或物质引起的呼吸和肺部问题。轻微的影响包括睡眠时咳嗽或呼吸问题,严重的影响诸如肺毒性、感染、肺炎和酸中毒。不仅药物本身,而且药物制剂的其他成分都会导致对肺部和呼吸系统的不利影响。从剂量和浓度依赖性方式方面考量,苯扎氯铵的靶器官是肺,吸入后引起肺部刺激、炎症和肺泡损伤,大鼠口服或静脉给药后可导致肺水肿和肺炎^[51]。张岚等^[52]的研究表明,小鼠经鼻给药雷公藤红素对小鼠鼻腔结构和嗅区组织无明显影响。

6 鼻腔给药系统装置研究进展

作为一种复杂的药械组合的产品,鼻腔给药系统(如气雾剂、粉雾剂等)需要一种特制的给药装置来实现药物到达给药部位。给药装置是鼻腔给药系统必不可少的重要组成部分,直接关系到药物的质量、疗效和安全等因素。Djupestrand等^[53]开发了一种新型经鼻肺气溶胶递送系统,包括一个气溶胶粒径选择室和一个定制的鼻导管,优化的鼻导管使气溶胶输出更为稳定,且粒径足够小,以减少鼻腔沉积。该装置缓慢、连续递送药物,与传统通过烟嘴或面罩快速、间歇给药相比更加安全有效,并提高患者耐受性和依从性。大流量鼻插管系统(high-flow nasal cannula, HFNC)已迅速成为儿科护理中流行的呼吸支持方式,由于其易用性和安全性,因此可以在各种环境中使用。HFNC装置可以调节气体流量和温度,并允许施用一些雾化药物,这些功能在儿童中非常有用,其中治疗效果和治疗依从性之间的平衡至关重要^[54-55]。

7 结论及展望

鼻腔给药系统作为一种可以直接作用于药用部位的给药系统,具有片剂、注射剂等剂型不具备的

优势。鼻腔给药系统可以避免肝脏首过效应,具有良好的生物利用度。同时,中药鼻腔给药系统在鼻腔和肺部疾病的治疗中已取得较好的疗效并能保障安全性。在此类疾病的临床治疗中,中药疗效显著,还有待开发的中药肺部给药制剂无疑具有良好的应用前景。目前中药鼻腔给药系统存在一些缺陷:1)中药经鼻给药大多是气味浓郁、刺激性强的药物,容易使鼻腔过敏或造成伤害。2)中药经鼻给药重心多用于缓解症状,疾病易复发。3)传统中药经鼻给药制备简单,多为原料药直接研磨或煎煮后经鼻给药,药物的利用度较低。4)临床研究中常因添加的吸收促进剂毒性较大,对鼻腔黏膜具有较大的刺激性,对鼻纤毛功能影响较大,引起患者的不良反应。5)新剂型处方的组成比较复杂,可供鼻腔使用的辅料品种又比较少,且对鼻腔黏膜的安全性也不明确。6)新剂型的制备工艺不够成熟,产品质量也不够稳定,距工业化大生产仍然存在较大的距离,严重制约了鼻腔给药新制剂的发展。针对上述问题,主要的解决方法就是具体药物、处方具体分析,传统的中药经鼻给药制备简单,不需要复杂的辅料以及制备工艺。若要解决上述问题,需要考虑处方药物的优化、吸收促进剂等辅料的选择以及给药装置的开发等一系列的问题。今后应该加强对中药鼻腔给药制剂的基础与应用研究,高度重视对中药鼻腔给药制剂的药理及药代动力学研究、质量控制方法的研究以及毒副作用的研究,加强对新技术、新工艺、新方法的研究开发,使得中药鼻腔给药技术拥有一个更有前景的未来。

关于中药鼻腔给药系统的研究较少,对于中药处方中适合鼻腔给药单味中药、中药单体缺乏深入研究;现代嗅区递药入脑理论在化学药及生物药中研究及应用较为深入,而中药鼻腔给药技术研究多沿袭化学药及生物药的思路及方法,未能形成中药相关理论体系。此外,研究对象多为用于治疗鼻炎等鼻腔局部疾病的挥发性中药,对经鼻腔给药治疗脑部疾病和全身性疾病的中药研究尚浅。传统复方的给药量较大,但鼻腔内承受药物的容积有限,鼻腔的独特生理结构可能导致每次给药后药物经鼻吸收的含量不准确,因此,建立适应中医理论的中药鼻腔给药系统和质量控制方法成为亟待解决的问题。中药鼻腔给药在应用中潜力巨大,这一给药系统及其制剂研发将随着新技术、新辅料、新给药装置的不断探索,创新出更加符合人体生理特点的中药制剂,同时也会让传统中医药焕发新光彩。

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Research progress on nasal administration technologies of traditional Chinese medicine

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Abstract

Significance Nasal drug delivery technology of traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) is a new administration method where Chinese herbal medicines are prepared and placed in the nasal cavity in a certain dosage form and absorbed by the nasal mucosa to exert local or systemic therapeutic effects. Compared to traditional dosage forms such as injections or oral preparations, nasal drug delivery has the advantages of convenient administration, good targeting, high safety, and fast absorption. It is particularly effective for the treatment of upper respiratory tract infection and other diseases. Therefore, this technology has been widely used in recent years and has become a hot spot in the research and development of new TCM drug delivery systems.

Progress Various nasal dosage forms of TCM have been developed, including nasal drops, lotions, emulsions, aerosols, sprays, powder sprays, sniffing agents, gels, and films. Among them, nasal drops are easy to prepare and cost-effective, but have some shortcomings such as inaccurate dosage, uneven distribution, and easy loss in the nasal cavity. Powder sprays, which do not require propellants and pressure devices, are environmentally friendly, more stable, and have sustained and controlled release. However, they may not deliver the drug effectively to nasal cavity due to varying particle sizes. Aerosols and

sprays distribute evenly, are not easily lost, and can achieve bioavailability of 70%~80%. However, they require special injection valve systems and specific containers, which are costly to manufacture and contain propellants that may cause mucosal irritation. Gels, films, and microemulsions can extend the residence time of the drug in the nasal mucosa, improving bioavailability and reducing the administration frequency while increasing drug loading. However, their preparation processes are complex, and their efficacy is unstable. The paper reviews the characteristics and applications of TCM nasal dosage forms, including nasal drops, aerosols, powders, gels, film agents, microemulsions, introduces the theoretical basis, and summarizes the research progress in pharmacology, pharmacokinetics, quality control, irritant studies, and device development.

Conclusions and Prospects Current TCM nasal drug delivery systems face several challenges: 1) Most of the TCM nasal administrations involve strong odor and irritating drugs, which can easily cause nasal allergies or injuries. 2) TCM nasal administration mainly focuses on symptom relief, causing diseases prone to relapse. 3) The preparation of TCM nasal formulations is simple, with low drug utilization, typically involving direct grinding or decoction. 4) Absorption enhancers used in clinical studies are often toxic, and may cause greater irritation to the nasal mucosa. They have a greater impact on nasal cilia function and lead to adverse reactions in patients. To address these issues, specific drug and prescription analysis are needed. It is necessary to optimize prescription drugs, select appropriate excipients such as absorption enhancers, and develop effective drug delivery devices. Future studies should emphasize both basic and applied research in TCM nasal drug delivery systems, focusing on pharmacology and pharmacokinetics, quality control methods, and toxic side effects. In addition, new technologies, processes, and methods should be developed to leverage the potential of TCM nasal drug delivery technologies.

Keywords: traditional Chinese medicine; nasal administration technology; quality control

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