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· 专题研究 ·

术前血小板与淋巴细胞比值对肝癌切除术后患者预后价值的Meta分析

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摘要

背景与目的: 肝癌是最常见的恶性肿瘤之一, 一直以来影响着人类健康。肝切除术是肝癌首选的治疗方式, 但术后复发率高、生存期短严重影响手术疗效。随着肿瘤相关炎症的研究不断深入, 包括血小板与淋巴细胞比值 (PLR) 在内的一系列全身炎症指标被逐步提出, 并被认为是可用于预测恶性肿瘤患者预后的标志物。近年来, 研究发现术前 PLR 可作为预测肝癌切除术后患者预后的评价指标, 但各研究结果间存在较大争议, 本研究旨在通过 Meta 分析的方法评价术前 PLR 与肝癌切除术后患者预后的关系, 以为肝癌临床治疗提供参考依据。

方法: 检索 PubMed、Embase、Cochrane Library、Web of Science、中国知网、万方数据库、中国生物医学数据库中截至 2020 年 3 月 11 日公开发表的涉及 PLR 与肝细胞癌的相关研究, 对文献进行筛选及数据提取后, 以危险比 (HR) 及其 95% 置信区间 (CI) 作为效应指标, 以 Stata 12.0 软件进行 Meta 分析。

结果: 最终 26 项研究, 总计 12 288 例患者纳入本研究。Meta 分析结果显示, 术前高 PLR 与肝癌患者肝切除术后总生存期 (OS) 缩短相关 ($HR=1.03$, $95\% CI=1.01\sim 1.04$, $P<0.001$), 术前 PLR 升高可预示术后较差的无瘤生存期 (DFS) 或无复发生存期 (RFS) ($HR=1.05$, $95\% CI=1.02\sim 1.07$, $P<0.001$)。亚组分析显示, 对于 BCLC 0 或 A 期患者, 术前 PLR 可预测其 OS 缩短 ($HR=1.47$, $95\% CI=1.17\sim 1.80$, $P<0.05$), 但与 DFS/RFS 无关 ($HR=1.16$, $95\% CI=0.91\sim 1.48$, $P=0.227$); 术后接受局部消融治疗、经动脉化疗栓塞术等抗癌治疗的患者, 其较差的 OS 也与术前 PLR 有关 ($HR=1.07$, $95\% CI=1.030\sim 1.109$, $P<0.001$)。进一步探究 PLR 有效临界值取值范围时发现, 临界值取值 <100 时, 术前 PLR 与患者 OS 及 DFS/RFS 无关 ($HR=1.12$, $95\% CI=0.88\sim 1.41$, $P=0.365$; $HR=1.26$, $95\% CI=0.93\sim 1.72$, $P=0.135$)。异质性分析及发表偏倚检验发现, 异质性来源于各研究纳入患者肿瘤分期不同、PLR 临界值取值不同及纳入研究间存在明显的发表偏倚 (Egger's 检验: $P>|t|=0.000$) 相关, 通过剪补法, 增加了 11 项研究后, 结果仍较为稳定地显示术前高 PLR 与较差的 OS 相关。

结论: 术前 PLR 可作为预测肝癌切除术患者预后不良的生物指标, 其有效预测临界值取值应大于 100。上述结论需要未来高质量、多中心、前瞻性研究进一步验证, 以使得 PLR 能更好地被应用于临床。

关键词

癌, 肝细胞; 肝切除术; 血小板与淋巴细胞比值; 预后; Meta 分析

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Prognostic value of preoperative platelet to lymphocyte ratio in patients with hepatocellular carcinoma undergoing hepatectomy: a Meta-analysis

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Abstract

Background and Aims: As one of the most common malignant tumors, liver cancer has long been a human health concern. Hepatectomy is the preferred treatment of liver cancer, but the high postoperative recurrence rate and short survival time seriously influence the surgical efficacy. With the deepening of studies in tumor-associated inflammation, a series of systemic inflammatory indicators, including platelet to lymphocyte ratio (PLR), have been gradually proposed, and are considered to be markers that can be used to predict the prognosis of patients with malignant tumors. In recent years, studies have found that preoperative PLR can be used as an evaluation index to predict the prognosis of patients after hepatectomy, but the results of various studies are controversial. This study was designated to evaluate the relationship between preoperative PLR and prognosis of patients after hepatectomy by Meta-analysis, so as to provide reference for clinical treatment of liver cancer.

Methods: The relevant studies concerning PLR and hepatocellular carcinoma published as of March 11, 2020 were searched in PubMed, Embase, Cochrane Library, Web of Science, CNKI, Wanfang Database and SinoMed databases. After literature screening and data extraction, Meta-analysis was performed by Stata 12.0 software, using hazard ratio (HR) and its 95% confidence interval (CI) as effect indicators.

Results: A total of 26 studies with 12 288 patients were finally included. The results of Meta-analysis showed that the shortened overall survival time (OS) after hepatectomy was related to high preoperative PLR (HR=1.03, 95% CI=1.01–1.04, $P<0.001$), and the increased preoperative PLR could predict poor disease-free survival (DFS) or recurrence free survival time (RFS) after operation (HR=1.05, 95% CI=1.02–1.07, $P<0.001$). Subgroup analysis showed that preoperative PLR could predict OS shortening in patients with BCLC-0/A disease (HR=1.47, 95% CI=1.17–1.80, $P<0.05$), but was irrelevant to DFS/RFS (HR=1.16, 95% CI=0.91–1.48, $P=0.227$); in patients receiving postoperative transarterial chemoembolization, local ablation therapy and other anti-cancer therapy, the poor OS was also related to the preoperative PLR (HR=1.07, 95% CI=1.030–1.109, $P<0.001$). Further exploring the range of effective cut-off value of PLR found that preoperative PLR was irrelevant to the shortened OS or DFS/RFS (HR=1.12, 95% CI=0.88–1.41, $P=0.365$; HR=1.26, 95% CI=0.93–1.72, $P=0.135$) when the cut-off value was less than 100. Heterogeneity analysis and publication bias test found that the heterogeneity was due to different tumor stages, different cut-off values of PLR and there was a significant publication bias among the included studies (Egger's test: $P>|t|=0.000$). After 11 studies were added, the results still steadily showed that high preoperative PLR was associated with poor OS.

Conclusion: Preoperative PLR is a biological index to predict the poor prognosis of patients undergoing hepatectomy, and the cut-off value for effective prediction should be more than 100. The above conclusions need to be further verified by high-quality multicenter prospective studies in the future, so that PLR can be better used in clinical practice.

Key words

Carcinoma, Hepatocellular; Hepatectomy; Platelet to Lymphocyte Ratio; Prognosis; Meta-Analysis

CLC number: R735.7

肝癌是全球发病率第六，病死率第三的恶性肿瘤^[1]，是影响人类健康的重大癌症负担，其中最常见的是肝细胞癌（hepatocellular carcinoma, HCC）。根治性切除术是肝癌的首选治疗方法，尤其针对早期患者。然而，尽管诊治技术不断发展进步，肝癌预后不良仍是临床工作面临的严峻挑战，据统计，肝癌的复发率高达60%~70%^[2-3]，肝切除术后2年内复发率高达43.1%，术后患者的5年生存率仅有30%~50%^[4-5]。因此，找寻经济可靠的生物预测指标，对提高肝癌患者预后及生存质量具有重要意义。

近年来，研究发现全身炎症在肿瘤的发生、发展中起重要作用，癌症相关炎症也已被证实与恶性肿瘤预后不良相关^[6-7]。全身炎症指标，如中性粒细胞与淋巴细胞比值（neutrophil to lymphocyte ratio, NLR）、C反应蛋白等在多种肿瘤中被广泛研究^[8-10]。近期研究表明，术前血小板与淋巴细胞比值（platelet to lymphocyte ratio, PLR）可能是肝癌的预后指标，然而其对于肝切除术后预后的预测作用仍存在争议，如Huang等^[11]研究认为术前分层PLR可用于预测HCC术后患者生存，Kabir等^[10]发现联合术前NLR与PLR对于预测HCC患者总生存期（overall survival, OS）和无复发生存期（recurrence free survival, RFS）具有显著价值，而涉及多种炎症指标的前瞻性研究发现，术前PLR对于预测HCC患者预后并无明显价值^[12]；此外，各研究确定的PLR临界值有较大的差别。Meta分析作为最高级别证据来源，可用于分析事物间的具体关系。本研究旨在应用Meta分析评估术前PLR与肝癌切除术后患者预后的关系，进而对术前PLR的临床应用提供有效参考。

1 材料与方法

1.1 检索策略

计算机检索PubMed、Embase、Web of Science、Cochrane Library、中国知网、万方数据库、中国生物医学数据库。检索时限为各数据库建库至2020年3月11日。英文检索词：Liver Cell Carcinoma；Liver Carcinoma；Hepatic Carcinoma；Hepatic Cell Carcinoma；Hepatocarcinoma；Hepatocellular Carcinoma；Hepatoma；Hepatocellular Cancer；Primary Liver Carcinoma；HCC；Liver Neoplasm；

Liver Cancer；Liver Primary Cancer；Hepatic Neoplasm；Hepatic Cancer；Cancer of Liver；Cancer of the Liver；Primary Liver Cancer；Platelet to Lymphocyte Ratio；Platelet-to-Lymphocyte Ratio；PLR；Platelet Lymphocyte ratio；Platelet-Lymphocyte Ratio；Platelet/Lymphocyte Ratio；Thrombocyte Lymphocyte Ratio。中文检索词：肝癌；肝细胞癌；肝肿瘤；肝恶性肿瘤；血小板/淋巴细胞比值；血小板与淋巴细胞比值；血小板淋巴细胞比值；血小板-淋巴细胞比值。检索采用主题词加自由词的方式，遵循Cochrane检索要求。

1.2 纳入和排除标准

纳入标准：(1) 经影像学或病理证实的HCC；(2) 患者接受肝切除术治疗；(3) 报告术前PLR情况及确定的临界值；(4) 以OS、无瘤生存期（disease free survival, DFS）或RFS为结局指标，报告危险比（hazard ratio, HR）及其95%置信区间（confidence interval, CI）或者提供可用于计算HR及其95% CI的数据资料。排除标准：(1) 非HCC，复发性肝癌或肝转移癌；(2) 综述（传统或系统综述）、会议摘要、信函、无全文文献；(3) 同一研究的数据重复发表；(4) 非术前PLR或未报道PLR临界值；(5) 非手术治疗、非单纯手术治疗或治疗方式不明确；(6) 无法获取或计算HR及其95% CI；(7) 动物或细胞实验。

1.3 数据提取及文献质量评价

由2名评价员分别独立进行文献筛选及数据提取，无法通过标题及摘要明确纳入或排除的，进行全文浏览，通过讨论处理分歧。对于纳入研究，提取以下信息：第一作者、发表年份、国家、样本量、患者年龄及性别、随访时间、PLR临界值、治疗方案（手术治疗及术后接受抗癌治疗情况）、结局指标（OS、DFS、RFS）、HR及其95% CI及来源（同时报告单因素和多因素分析的纳入多因素分析结果）、研究设计类型、肝癌分期、其他临床病理特征（如肿瘤大小、肿瘤数量等）。2名评价员分别独立采用Newcastle-Ottawa量表（NOS）对纳入研究进行质量评估进行质量评价，NOS由研究对象选择（0~4分）、组间可比性（0~2分）及结果测量（0~3分）组成。

1.4 统计学处理

从纳入研究中直接获取或计算效应量HR及其95% CI，HR>1提示PLR升高与肝癌预后不良相

关。 I^2 检验用于检验纳入研究的异质性, $I^2>50\%$ 或 $P_h<0.05$ 认为研究间存在异质性,采用随机效应模型合并效应量,反之使用固定效应模型。敏感性分析、亚组分析及Meta回归用于解释异质性来源。采用Egger's检验及剪补法定量检测发表偏倚。 $P<0.05$ 认为有统计学意义。使用Stata 12.0软件进行统计学分析。

2 结果

2.1 文献检索结果

经检索各数据库得到906篇文献,其中英文文献821篇,中文85篇,经去重及仔细筛选,最终26项研究共12 288例患者纳入Meta分析。筛选流程见图1。

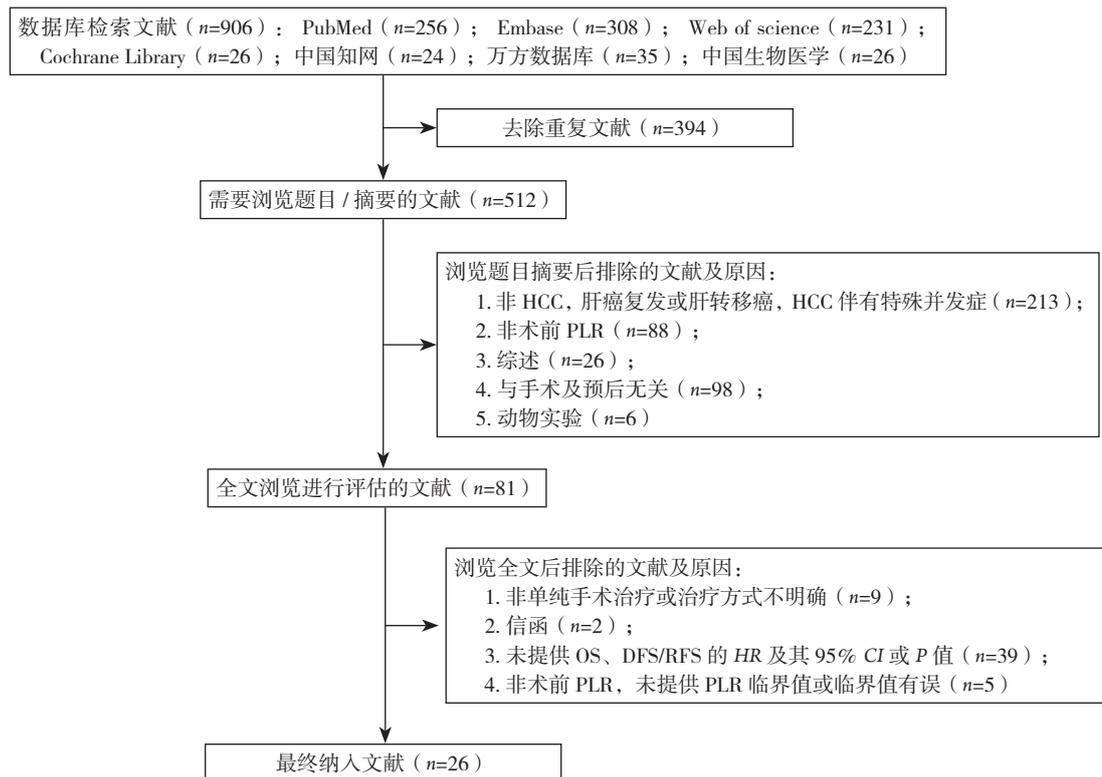


图1 文献筛选流程图

Figure 1 Literature filtering process

2.2 纳入研究的特征

本研究纳入25项回顾性研究^[9-11, 13-34], 1项前瞻性研究^[12], 发表于2014—2019年, 其中20项^[9, 11, 13, 15-16, 18-29, 32-34]来自中国, 3项^[12, 14, 17]来自日本, 2项^[10, 31]来自新加坡, 1项^[30]来自美国, 各研究HR及95% CI反映术前PLR与患者预后关系。患者中位年龄为50.1~68岁, 9项研究^[14-16, 18, 21-23, 28, 32]明确表明术后患者接受其他抗癌治疗, 3项研究^[13, 20, 34]患者巴塞罗那临床肝癌 (Barcelona Clinic Liver Cancer, BCLC) 分期为0或A期。NOS评分7分9项, 6分10项, 5分7项 (表1)。

2.3 术前 PLR 与肝癌 OS 的关系

有25项研究^[9-11, 13-34]涉及术前PLR与肝切除术后患者OS的关系。使用固定效应模型合并效应量时, 研究间有明显的异质性 ($I^2=87\%$,

$P_h<0.001$), 故采用随机效应模型。Meta结果显示, 术前PLR与OS缩短相关, 合并效应量 $HR=1.03$ (95% CI=1.01~1.04, $P<0.001$) (图2)。对3项仅涉及BCLC 0或A期患者的研究^[13, 20, 34]进行效应量合并, 同样发现术前PLR可预测患者不良的总生存期 ($HR=1.45$, 95% CI=1.17~1.79, $P<0.05$); 术后接受局部消融治疗、经动脉化疗栓塞术等抗癌治疗的患者, 术前PLR也与OS不良相关 ($HR=1.07$, 95% CI=1.03~1.11, $P<0.001$) (表2)。

分别100、150、200进行临界值分组, 进一步探索PLR预测患者术后OS的取值范围。结果显示, 临界值 <100 时, 术前PLR与患者OS缩短无关 ($HR=1.12$, 95% CI=0.88~1.41, $P=0.365$), 而分别以150及200进行分组, 合并HR后, 各组结果均提示PLR与患者术后较差的OS相关 (表2)。

表 1 纳入研究特征
Table 1 Main characteristics of the studies included

| 研究 | 年份 | 国家或地区 | 样本量 (男/女) | 随访时间 (月) | 治疗方式 | 平均年龄 (岁) | PLR 临界值 | 结局指标 | BCLC 分期 | HR 来源 | NOS 评分 |
|-----------------------------|------|-------|-------------------|------------------|------|---------------|---------|--------|---------------------------------|---------|--------|
| Huang, 等 ^[13] | 2019 | 台湾 | 891 (694/197) | 63.6 ± 36.48 | 手术 | 58.54 ± 11.60 | 120 | OS/RFS | 0 (125) ; A (766) | R (U) | 7 |
| Itoh, 等 ^[14] | 2019 | 日本 | 281 (224/57) | 68.4 (1.2~189.6) | 手术+ | 68 (28~87) | 129.5 | OS/RFS | NA | R (M/U) | 5 |
| Kabir, 等 ^[10] | 2019 | 新加坡 | 132 (116/16) | 24 (1~88) | 手术 | 65.2 ± 10.2 | 155 | OS/RFS | NA | R (U) | 5 |
| Shen, 等 ^[15] | 2019 | 中国 | 480 (308/172) | NA | 手术+ | NA | 167.7 | OS/RFS | A (248) ; B (232) | R (M/U) | 6 |
| Wang, 等 ^[9] | 2019 | 中国 | 239 (200/39) | NA | 手术 | 50.14 ± 11.98 | 128.1 | OS/RFS | 0 (11) ; A (153) ; B (45) ; C30 | R (M/U) | 6 |
| Xu, 等 ^[16] | 2019 | 中国 | 385 (339/46) | 17 (1~111) | 手术+ | 50.1 ± 12.5 | 111 | OS/DFS | A (64) ; B (197) ; C (124) | R (M/U) | 7 |
| Yamamoto, 等 ^[17] | 2019 | 日本 | 478 (301/177) | NA | 手术 | 69 (63~77) | 106 | OS/DFS | NA | R (U) | 5 |
| Yang, 等 ^[18] | 2019 | 中国 | 2 963 (2 581/382) | NA | 手术+ | 53 (46~61) | 117 | OS | 0/A (1 355) ; B (1 592) | R (U) | 7 |
| Ke, 等 ^[19] | 2018 | 中国 | 426 (378/48) | 59 (2~128) | 手术 | NA | 91 | OS/RFS | NA | R (M/U) | 5 |
| Li, 等 ^[20] | 2018 | 中国 | 475 (401/74) | 36.4 ± 19.1 | 手术 | 51.2 ± 11.1 | 150 | OS/RFS | A (475) | R (U) | 7 |
| 刘思晖, 等 ^[21] | 2018 | 中国 | 215 (178/37) | NA | 手术+ | 53 (22~82) | 125.78 | OS | NA | R (M/U) | 6 |
| 沈俊颀, 等 ^[22] | 2018 | 中国 | 268 (227/41) | 33 (1~79) | 手术+ | NA | 107 | OS/DFS | NA | R (M) | 6 |
| Xu, 等 ^[23] | 2018 | 中国 | 151 (128/23) | 33.8 (1~86) | 手术+ | 51 (22~78) | 115 | OS/RFS | 0/A (32) ; B/C (119) | R (U) | 6 |
| Yang, 等 ^[24] | 2018 | 中国 | 652 (566/86) | NA | 手术 | NA | 99.5 | OS/DFS | 0/A (353) ; B/C (299) | R (M/U) | 6 |
| 张劲夫, 等 ^[25] | 2018 | 中国 | 126 (106/20) | 40 (1~70) | 手术 | 52.5 (24~74) | 72.9 | OS/DFS | 0/A (72) ; B/C (54) | R (M) | 7 |
| Zhang, 等 ^[26] | 2018 | 中国 | 230 (193/37) | NA | 手术 | 51.60 ± 12.20 | 187.3 | OS/RFS | A (192) ; B (32) ; C (6) | R (U) | 7 |
| Huang, 等 ^[11] | 2017 | 中国 | 481 (411/70) | NA | 手术 | 56.4 ± 10.9 | 91.2 | OS | NA | R (M/U) | 6 |
| 王少虎, 等 ^[27] | 2017 | 中国 | 426 (378/48) | 38 | 手术+ | 53 (13~83) | 114.4 | OS/RFS | NA | R (U) | 7 |
| Yang, 等 ^[28] | 2017 | 中国 | 778 (671/107) | NA | 手术 | NA | 110 | OS/DFS | 0/A (236) ; B/C (537) | R (M/U) | 6 |
| 叶劲松, 等 ^[29] | 2017 | 中国 | 661 (574/87) | NA | 手术 | 47.5 ± 11.4 | 99 | OS/DFS | 0/A (236) ; B/C (425) | R (M) | 6 |
| Zheng, 等 ^[30] | 2017 | 美国 | 370 (271/99) | 56 | 手术 | 65 ± 12 | 289/275 | OS/RFS | NA | R (U) | 5 |
| Goh, 等 ^[31] | 2016 | 新加坡 | 166 (142/24) | 23 (0~170) | 手术 | 66 (21~85) | 290 | OS/RFS | NA | R (U) | 6 |
| Ji, 等 ^[32] | 2016 | 中国 | 321 (285/36) | NA | 手术+ | 51 (21~79) | 115 | OS | NA | R (M) | 7 |
| 苏子剑, 等 ^[33] | 2016 | 中国 | 256 (213/43) | 38 (1~83) | 手术 | 51.92 ± 12.74 | 131.81 | OS/RFS | NA | R (M) | 7 |
| Chan, 等 ^[34] | 2015 | 中国 | 324 (283/41) | NA | 手术 | 56.8 ± 10.9 | 150 | OS/DFS | 0/A (324) | R (U) | 5 |
| Yamamura, 等 ^[12] | 2014 | 日本 | 113 (91/22) | 29.9 (0.8~123.5) | 手术 | 66 (35~80) | 150 | RFS | NA | S (U) | 5 |

注：手术+代表术后接受其他抗癌治疗；R代表数据从文献提取，S代表数据由文献图表计算；U代表单因素分析，M代表多因素分析；NA指未获得相关信息；1) 前瞻性研究
Note: Operation + standing for other anticancer therapy after operation; R standing for data extracted from the literature, S standing for data calculated by the literature chart; U standing for univariate analysis, M standing for multivariate analysis; NA standing for no relevant information has been obtained; 1) standing for prospective study

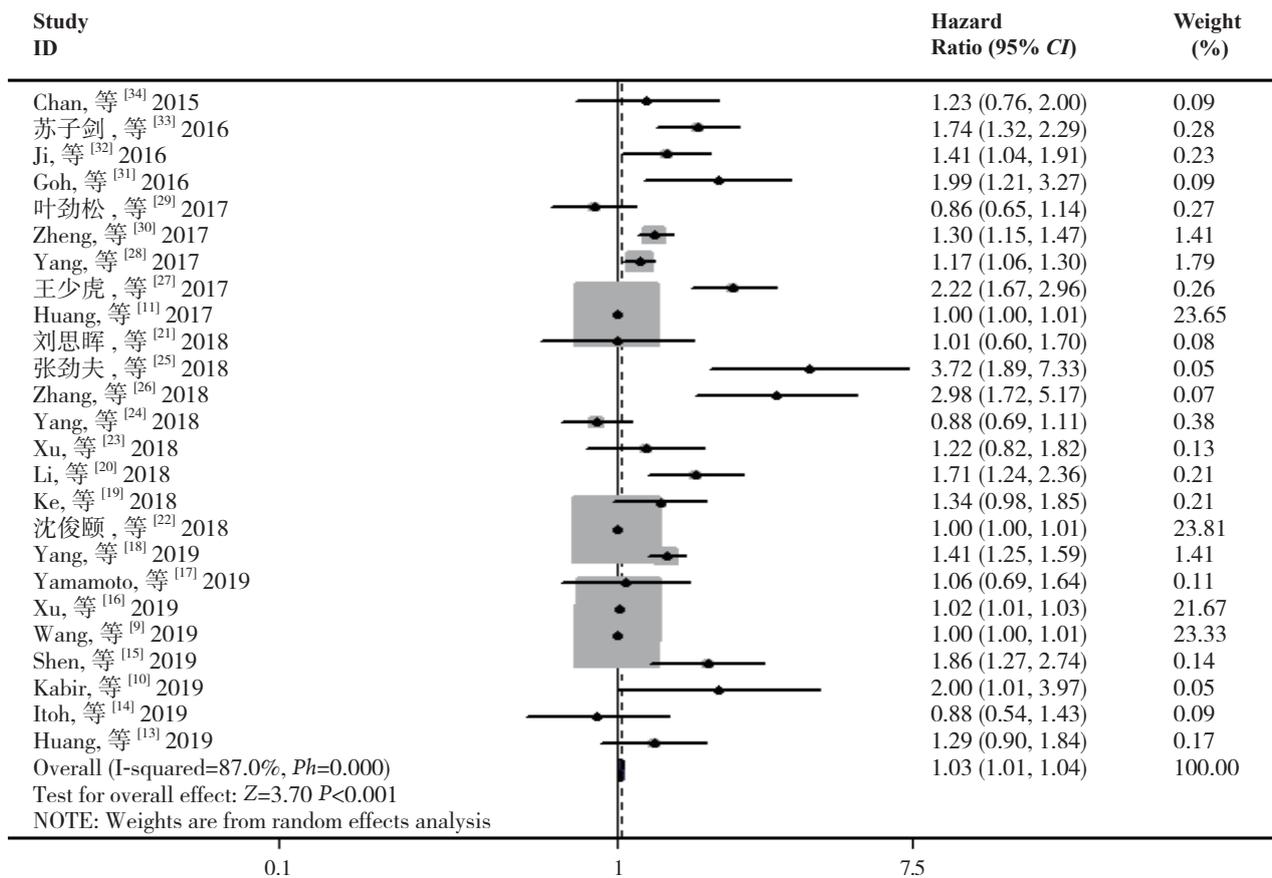


图 2 术前 PLR 与肝癌切除术后 OS 关系的 Meta 分析

Figure 2 Meta-analysis of the relationship between preoperative PLR and OS after hepatectomy

表 2 术前 PLR 与 OS 关系的亚组分析

Table 2 Subgroup analysis of the relationship between preoperative PLR and OS

| 分组 | 研究数 | 研究 | 固定效应模型 | | 随机效应模型 | | 异质性 | |
|--------------|-----|--|---------------------|--------|---------------------|--------|----------------|--------|
| | | | HR (95% CI) | P | HR (95% CI) | P | I ² | Ph |
| 肝癌分期 | 25 | | 1.01 (1.003~1.007) | <0.001 | 1.03 (1.013~1.044) | <0.001 | 87.00% | <0.001 |
| BCLC 0 或 A 期 | 3 | [13, 20, 34] | 1.45 (1.166~1.794) | 0.001 | 1.45 (1.166~1.794) | 0.001 | 0.00% | 0.397 |
| 全部期别 | 10 | [9, 15~16, 18, 23~26, 28~29] | 1.008 (1.004~1.013) | <0.001 | 1.072 (1.029~1.118) | 0.001 | 89.80% | <0.001 |
| 未明确分期 | 12 | [10~11, 14, 17, 19, 21~22, 27, 30~33] | 1.004 (1.002~1.006) | <0.001 | 1.018 (1.000~1.036) | 0.048 | 86.50% | <0.001 |
| 术后接受抗癌治疗 | 9 | [14~16, 18, 21~23, 28, 32] | 1.01 (1.003~1.008) | <0.001 | 1.07 (1.030~1.109) | <0.001 | 89.00% | <0.001 |
| PLR 临界值 | | | 1.01 (1.003~1.007) | <0.001 | 1.03 (1.013~1.044) | <0.001 | 87.00% | <0.001 |
| < 100 | 5 | [11, 19, 21, 24~25] | 1.00 (1.001~1.008) | 0.024 | 1.12 (0.881~1.411) | 0.365 | 80.00% | <0.001 |
| ≥ 100 | 20 | [9~10, 13~18, 20, 22~23, 26~34] | 1.01 (1.003~1.007) | <0.001 | 1.06 (1.032~1.080) | <0.001 | 88.50% | <0.001 |
| < 150 | 18 | [9, 11, 13~14, 16~19, 21~25, 28~29, 32~33] | 1.01 (1.003~1.007) | <0.001 | 1.02 (1.004~1.029) | 0.008 | 85.90% | <0.001 |
| ≥ 150 | 7 | [10, 15, 20, 26, 30~31, 34] | 1.44 (1.303~1.594) | <0.001 | 1.70 (1.353~2.126) | <0.001 | 60.50% | 0.019 |
| < 200 | 23 | [9~11, 13~29, 32~34] | 1.01 (1.003~1.007) | <0.001 | 1.02 (1.008~1.036) | 0.002 | 86.30% | <0.001 |
| ≥ 200 | 2 | [30~31] | 1.33 (1.184~1.497) | <0.001 | 1.50 (1.010~2.227) | 0.044 | 62.80% | 0.101 |

2.4 术前 PLR 与肝癌 DFS/RFS 的关系

有 22 项研究^[9-10, 12-17, 19-20, 22-31, 33-34]报道了术前 PLR 与肝切除术后患者 DFS 或 RFS 的关系, 各研究间有显著的异质性 (I²=80.9%, Ph<0.001), 故采用随机效应模型合并效应量 HR=1.05 (95% CI=1.02~1.07, P<0.05) (图 3), 提示术前 PLR 与患者 DFS/RFS 缩短相关。而对仅涉及 BCLC 0 期

或 A 期患者的研究进行效应量合并后, 发现患者术前 PLR 与 DFS/RFS 缩短无关 (HR=1.16, 95% CI=0.91~1.48, P>0.05); 对从多因素分析中提取的数据合并效应量, 结果否定了 PLR 与术后 DFS/RFS 的关系 (HR=1.02, 95% CI=0.997~1.033, P>0.05)。进一步探索 PLR 影响 DFS/RFS 的临界值范围。结果显示, 临界

值<100时, 术前PLR与患者较差DFS/RFS无关 (HR=1.26, 95% CI= 0.93~1.72, P=0.135), 分

别以150及200进行分组合并HR后, 各组结果均提示PLR与较短的DFS/RFS相关(表3)。

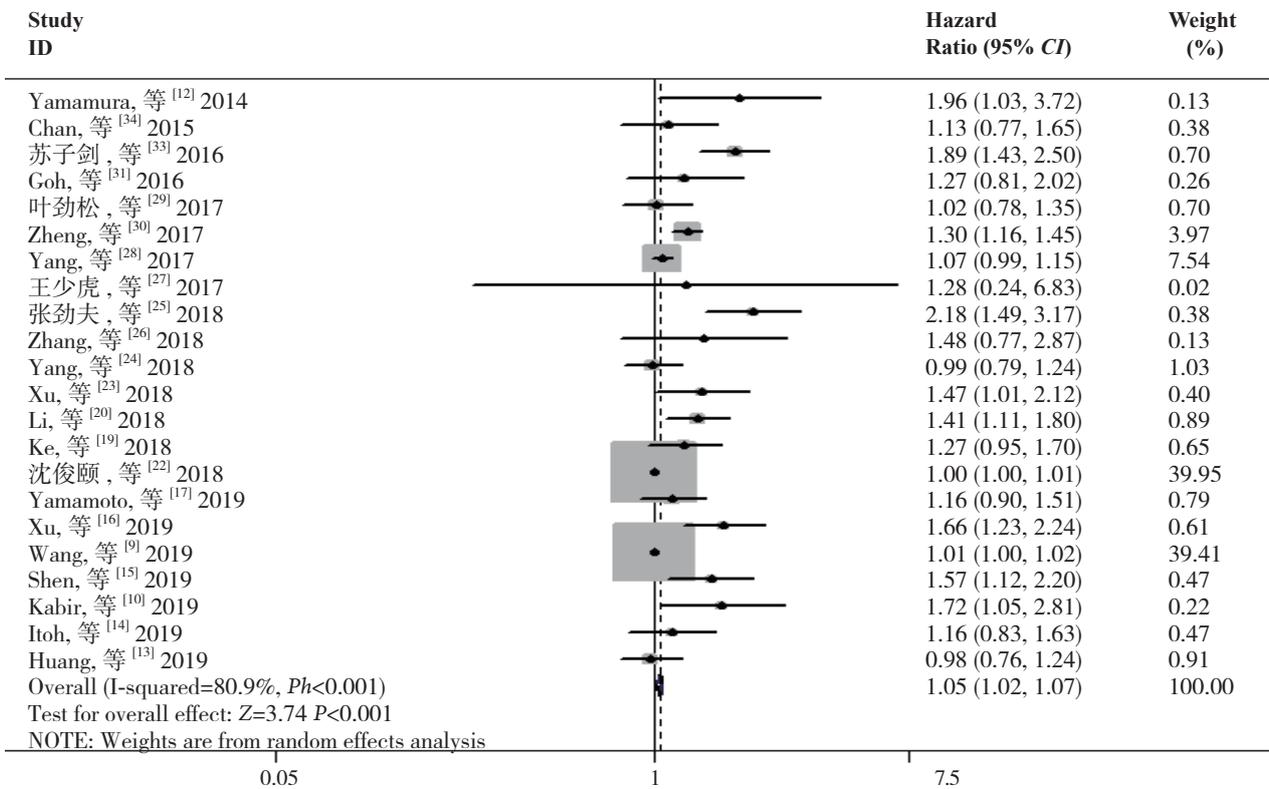


图3 术前PLR与肝癌切除术后DFS/RFS相关性的Meta分析

Figure 3 Meta-analysis of the correlation between preoperative PLR and DFS/RFS after hepatectomy

表3 术前PLR与DFS/RFS关系的亚组分析

Table 3 Subgroup analysis of the relationship between preoperative PLR and DFS/RFS

| 分组 | 研究数 | 研究 | 固定效应模型 | | 随机效应模型 | | 异质性 | |
|--------------|-----|---|--------------------|--------|--------------------|--------|----------------|--------|
| | | | HR (95% CI) | P | HR (95% CI) | P | I ² | Ph |
| BCLC 0 或 A 期 | 3 | [13, 20, 34] | 1.16 (0.995~1.361) | 0.058 | 1.16 (0.911~1.480) | 0.227 | 55.20% | 0.108 |
| 效应量来源 | 22 | | 1.01 (1.003~1.007) | <0.001 | 1.05 (1.021~1.070) | <0.001 | 80.90% | <0.001 |
| 单因素 | 14 | [10, 12-14, 16-17, 19-20, 23, 26-27, 30-31, 34] | 1.29 (1.200~1.388) | <0.001 | 1.29 (1.195~1.394) | <0.001 | 3.30% | 0.414 |
| 多因素 | 8 | [9, 15, 22, 24-25, 28-29, 33] | 1.01 (1.002~1.007) | <0.001 | 1.02 (0.997~1.033) | 0.105 | 86.4% | <0.001 |
| 样本量 | 22 | | 1.01 (1.003~1.007) | <0.001 | 1.05 (1.021~1.070) | <0.001 | 80.90% | <0.001 |
| < 200 | 5 | [10, 12, 23, 25, 31] | 1.68 (1.378~2.045) | <0.001 | 1.68 (1.378~2.045) | <0.001 | 0.00% | 0.41 |
| ≥ 200 | 17 | [9, 12-17, 19-20, 22, 24, 26-30, 33] | 1.01 (1.002~1.007) | <0.001 | 1.03 (1.010~1.053) | 0.003 | 80.10% | <0.001 |
| 临界值 | 22 | | 1.01 (1.003~1.007) | <0.001 | 1.05 (1.021~1.070) | <0.001 | 80.90% | <0.001 |
| < 100 | 4 | [19, 24-25, 29] | 1.18 (1.027~1.357) | 0.020 | 1.26 (0.930~1.715) | 0.135 | 78.10% | 0.003 |
| ≥ 100 | 18 | [9-10, 12-17, 20, 22-23, 26-28, 30-31, 33-34] | 1.01 (1.002~1.007) | <0.001 | 1.04 (1.015~1.060) | 0.001 | 81.40% | <0.001 |
| < 150 | 14 | [9, 13-14, 16-17, 19, 22-25, 27-29, 33] | 1.01 (1.002~1.007) | <0.001 | 1.02 (1.000~1.039) | 0.045 | 79.90% | <0.001 |
| ≥ 150 | 8 | [10, 12, 15, 20, 26, 30-31, 34] | 1.35 (1.231~1.471) | <0.001 | 1.35 (1.231~1.471) | <0.001 | 0.00% | 0.717 |
| < 200 | 20 | [9-10, 12-17, 19-20, 22-29, 33-34] | 1.01 (1.002~1.007) | <0.001 | 1.03 (1.008~1.053) | 0.007 | 78.60% | <0.001 |
| ≥ 200 | 2 | [30-31] | 1.30 (1.165~1.447) | <0.001 | 1.30 (1.165~1.447) | <0.001 | 0.00% | 0.933 |

2.5 异质性分析及发表偏倚

如前所述, 涉及OS的25篇文献及22篇关于DFS/RFS的文献均存在明显的异质性, 分别进行异质性来源分析和发表偏倚检测。OS方面, 亚组

分析显示, 3项关于BCLC 0或A期的研究^[13, 20, 34]间无明显异质性, 而进行全部期别或未明确期别的研究均存在较大异质性(表2); 敏感度分析结果显示, 分别去除样本量>500的5项研

究^[13,18,24,28-29],合并效应量并无明显波动;Meta回归提示,临界值 ≥ 150 和 < 150 与异质性有关($P>|t|=0.024$);Egger's检验发现存在明显的发表偏倚($P>|t|=0.000$),通过剪补法,增加了11项研究后,结果仍较为稳定地显示术前高PLR与较差的OS相关。DFS/RFS方面,亚组分析显示样本量及不同临界值取值可能是异质性来源(表3);敏感性分析发现去除样本量较大的研究后结果仍稳定;Meta回归发现,异质性与样本量有关($P>|t|=0.019$);各研究间存在明显的发表偏倚(Egger's检验: $P>|t|=0.000$)。

3 讨论

近年来,关于NLR、PLR等全身炎症指标预测肿瘤预后的研究不断报道,其简单经济非侵入的特点吸引着研究者的眼球,但诸多研究结果间存在着较大的争议,使用Meta分析的方法可有效解决这一问题。涉及6 457例食管癌患者的Meta分析^[35]显示术前高NLR与患者较差的生存率有关;涉及PLR与尿路上皮癌的Meta分析^[36]纳入5 354例患者,该研究发现PLR升高与患者较差的无进展生存期和DFS相关,而与OS无关;在鼻咽癌中的一项Meta分析研究^[37]发现,PLR增加可预测患者较差的OS、无进展生存期和无远处转移生存期。此外,很多研究认为PLR可作为HCC的预后指标,Song等^[38]通过分析涉及2 507例患者的11项研究后发现,高PLR与HCC患者不良OS、DFS/RFS相关,肯定了PLR的预后价值。肝切除术是HCC首选治疗方式,但术后复发率高、生存期短严重影响手术疗效,目前对于术前PLR与术后患者预后关系的研究结果间存在较大争议,且尚无相关Meta分析证明其预后价值。本研究通过检索和筛选相关研究,最终纳入总计12 288例患者的26项研究并进行Meta分析,合并效应量后发现,术前PLR与肝癌切除术后患者OS及DFS/RFS缩短相关,提示PLR可用于预测HCC患者术后预后不良,这与Song等^[38]的研究结论一致,也与肺癌、结直肠癌、鼻咽癌等肿瘤中的Meta结果相同^[37,39-40]。

PLR升高与HCC等肿瘤患者预后不良相关的原因目前尚无定论,大多认为与血小板促癌作用增加及淋巴细胞抑癌作用减低有关^[36,39]。第一,血小板对肿瘤发生发展有促进作用^[41-42],一方面,肿瘤细胞可激活血小板,提高血管内皮生成因子

及其趋化因子、血小板衍生5-羟色胺、血栓素 A_2 、前列腺素 E_2 等多种血小板来源细胞因子水平,通过影响肿瘤微环境,进而促进血管生成和肿瘤生长^[41-43];另一方面,血小板通过将主要组织相容性复合体I类分子转移到肿瘤细胞表面等方式促进肿瘤免疫逃逸^[41]。第二,淋巴细胞作为机体免疫细胞,是机体对抗异己物质的主要细胞,其数量反映了机体识别和清除肿瘤细胞的能力^[17],有研究证实淋巴细胞与肿瘤病灶切除术后较长的DFS及OS相关^[44]。总之,血小板数量增加或淋巴细胞数量减少均有利于肿瘤的生长和复发,从而影响患者预后。

Lin等^[45]的Meta发现术前PLR升高与HCC患者较差的OS及DFS相关,但其合并的BCLC A期的研究间存在高度统计学异质性($I^2=78.00%$)。本研究对仅涉及BCLC 0或A肝癌患者的3项研究^[13,20,34]进行效应量合并,结果显示术前PLR可预测患者OS缩短,但与较差的DFS/RFS无关。以下原因可能解释此结果,一方面涉及的研究较少,研究样本及治疗质量存在差异,另一方面,较晚期患者而言,早期肝癌患者复发率较低。同时,本研究发现,术后接受其他抗癌治疗的患者,PLR也可预测患者OS缩短。以上结果提示,PLR对于HCC预后可能具有较大的预测价值,这需要未来研究进一步验证。

目前的研究PLR临界值取值存在较大差异,而以不同临界值进行分组探究PLR与肝癌预后关系必然得到不同甚至截然相反的结果。对此,本研究以100,150,200为界限,探究PLR预测肝癌预后的临界值取值范围。结果显示,临界值取值小于100时,PLR不能用于预测肝癌切除术后不良的OS、DFS/RFS。因此可作出如下假设,HCC中血小板与淋巴细胞分别反映促癌作用和抑癌作用,这种反映间存在一定限制,体现在细胞计数上即PLR约等于100,当 $PLR>100$ 时,可反映出该限制被打破,HCC进展明显,患者预后变差。此假设需要未来研究补充和证实。

本研究存在以下局限性:(1)纳入的研究多为回顾性研究,各研究设计及治疗方式存在差异;(2)各研究间异质性较为显著,且存在明显的发表偏倚;(3)各研究PLR临界值取值存在较大差异,且取值方法不同,可能影响本研究结果。因此,本研究结果需要未来高质量、多中心、前瞻性研究进一步确定。

总体而言, 基于当前研究发现, 术前PLR可作为肝癌患者肝切除术后预后的预测指标, 作为全身炎症指标有一定的临床参考价值。PLR的临界值取值>100时, 其对于患者预后的预测能力更为显著。

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