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· 基础研究 ·

黄素单加氧酶3及其代谢产物水平的变化对高原地区 胆囊胆固醇结石形成影响的实验研究

桑海泉^{1,2}, 任伟强¹, 陈鹏¹

(1. 中国医科大学附属第四医院 普通外科, 辽宁 沈阳 110032; 2. 西藏自治区那曲市人民医院 普通外科, 西藏 那曲 852000)

摘要

背景与目的: 西藏等高原地区胆囊胆固醇结石(GCS)的发病率为平原地区的数倍,给高原地区居民带来严重困扰。既往研究表明脂质代谢紊乱是GCS形成的始发因素,黄素单加氧酶3(FMO3)及其代谢产物三甲胺-N-氧化物(TMAO)共同参与了GCS的形成(平原地区)。然而,FMO3和TMAO在高原GCS发病中的作用尚不明确。本研究在高原地区建立的小鼠GCS模型上观察FMO3和TMAO水平的变化并分析其潜在的临床意义。

方法: 将成年雄性C57BL/6J小鼠饲养在西藏那曲(海拔4500m),随机均分为GCS模型组与对照组。模型组采用高脂饮食(基础日粮+15%脂肪+1%胆固醇+0.5%胆酸)以诱发GCS,对照组采用正常饲料进行饲养。连续8周后处死小鼠收集标本(模型组以胆囊内出现胆固醇结石为造模成功标准,两组各取20只用于实验)。分别用全自动生化分析仪测定血脂和胆汁生化指标,高效液相色谱法(HPLC)测定血浆TMAO水平,qRT-PCR检测肝脏FMO3 mRNA表达水平,Spearman相关系数分析观测指标间的相关性,多因素Logistic回归分析危险因素。

结果: 模型组血清总胆固醇(TC)、甘油三酯(TG)、低密度脂蛋白(LDL)、胆汁TC、胆汁酸、磷脂和胆固醇饱和度(CSI)均明显高于对照组,高密度脂蛋白(HDL)明显低于对照组(均 $P<0.05$)。模型组血浆TMAO和肝脏FMO3 mRNA水平均明显高于对照组(均 $P<0.05$)。Spearman相关系数分析显示,FMO3 mRNA、TMAO与血浆TC、TG、LDL、胆汁TC、胆汁酸、磷脂和CSI均呈明显正相关,与HDL呈明显负相关(均 $P<0.05$)。多因素Logistic回归显示,FMO3 mRNA和TMAO升高是影响高原GCS的危险因素(均 $P<0.05$)。

结论: FMO3和TMAO升高可能与高原GCS形成密切相关,机制可能与两者升高导致的脂代谢紊乱有关,这为高原地区GCS的防治提供新的策略及方向。

关键词

胆囊结石病; 高海拔; 黄素单加氧酶3; 小鼠

中图分类号: R657.4

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作者简介: 桑海泉,中国医科大学附属第四医院副主任医师,主要从事胆道疾病基础与临床方面的研究。

通信作者: 桑海泉, Email: sanghaiquan0725@hotmail.com

Experimental study of changes in flavin monooxygenase 3 and its metabolite levels in formation of gallbladder cholesterol stone in plateau areas

SANG Haiquan^{1,2}, REN Weiqiang¹, CHEN Peng¹

(1. Department of General Surgery, the Fourth Affiliated Hospital of China Medical University, Shenyang 110032, China; 2. Department of General Surgery, Naqu people's Hospital of Tibet Autonomous Region, Naqu, Tibet 852000, China)

Abstract

Background and Aims: The incidence of gallbladder cholesterol stone (GCS) in Tibet and other plateau areas is several times higher than that in plain regions, which brings serious harm to the residents in the plateau areas. Previous studies have shown that the disorder of lipid metabolism is the initial factor for the formation of GCS. Flavin monooxygenase 3 (FMO3) and its metabolite trimethylamine-N-oxide (TMAO) are involved in the formation of GCS (plain region). However, the roles of FMO3 and TMAO in the pathogenesis of GCS in plateau areas is not clear. This study was conducted to observe the changes in FMO3 and TMAO levels in mice GCS model created in a plateau region and then analyze the potential clinical significance.

Methods: Adult male C57BL/6J mice were reared in Naqu, Tibet (4 500 m above sea level) and randomly divided into GCS model group and control group. Mice in model group were fed high-fat diet (basic diet +15% fat + 1% cholesterol + 0.5% cholic acid) to induce GCS, and those in control group were given normal diet. Eight weeks later, the mice were sacrificed, and the samples were harvested (the presence of cholesterol stones in the gallbladder in model group was a standard for successful model creation, and 20 mice were used in each group). Blood lipids and bile biochemical indexes were measured by automatic biochemical analyzer, plasma TMAO level was measured by high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC), the expression of FMO3 mRNA in liver was detected by qRT-PCR. Spearman correlation coefficient was used to analyze the correlation among the observed variables, and multivariate Logistic regression analysis was used to analyze the risk factors.

Results: The serum total cholesterol (TC), triglyceride (TG), low density lipoprotein (LDL), bile TC, bile acid, phospholipid and cholesterol saturation index (CSI) in model group were significantly higher than those in the control group, while the high-density lipoprotein (HDL) in model group was significantly lower than that in the control group (all $P<0.05$). The plasma level of TMAO and FMO3 mRNA expression level in the liver in model group were significantly higher than those in control group (both $P<0.05$). Spearman correlation coefficient analysis showed that FMO3 mRNA and TMAO were positively correlated with plasma TC, TG, LDL, bile TC, bile acid, phospholipid and CSI, and negatively correlated with HDL (all $P<0.05$). Multivariate Logistic regression showed that the increase of FMO3 mRNA and TMAO were the risk factors for GCS in plateau areas.

Conclusion: The high FMO3 and TMAO levels are closely related to the occurrence GCS in plateau areas, and the mechanism may be probably associated with the lipid metabolism disorders caused by their increase. This provides a new strategy and direction for the prevention and treatment of GCS in plateau areas.

Key words

Cholecystolithiasis; Altitude; Flavin Monooxygenase 3; Mice

CLC number: R657.4

胆囊结石是常见的消化系统疾病,同时也是造成胆囊癌的常见诱发因素,随着经济发展,人们饮食习惯的改变,发病率呈不断增加趋势^[1-3]。据调查研究显示每10年增加约2倍,在我国平原

地区胆囊结石发病率约为3.5%~5.0%,而在西藏等高原地区的发病率为平原地区的数倍,高达12.5%,给高原地区居民带来严重困扰^[4]。从现有报道来看,胆囊胆固醇结石(GCS)是主要的发

病类型，主要是由胆汁分泌和消化道系统功能紊乱、环境及基因等多因素共同导致，其中脂质代谢紊乱被认为是胆固醇结石形成的始发因素，其高发病率与该地区独特的自然环境、饮食结构和饮食习惯有密切的关系^[5-6]。然而，目前其更全面的发病机制并未阐明清楚。

随着对GCS发病机理的逐渐认识，国内外诸多学者发现肠道微生态失调与胆固醇结石形成过程存在密切联系。目前已有充足的研究表明肠道菌群失调参与胆囊结石等胆系疾病^[7-9]。研究发现肠道菌群可将胆碱类物质代谢为三甲胺（TMA），经肠道吸收入血进入肝脏后，TMA在黄素单加氧酶（FMO3）的催化下转变为三甲胺-N-氧化物（TMAO），肠道微生物主要通过调控FMO3/TMAO通路干预脂质代谢，从而引起胆汁酸代谢紊乱^[10-11]。但上述FMO3和TMAO在高原地区的GCS形成中的作用尚未进行研究。本研究通过检测小鼠肝FMO3 mRNA表达和血浆TMAO并分析其意义，以期有效诊治高原地区GCS提供实验依据。

1 材料与方法

1.1 实验动物与处理

将成年雄性C57BL/6J小鼠饲养在西藏那曲（海拔4 500 m），适应性饲养1周后，随机均分为2组（胆囊结石-模型组、对照组）。饲养期间小鼠不限饮食、饮水。针对模型组饲养高脂饮食（基础日粮+15%脂肪+1%胆固醇+0.5%胆酸）以诱发胆囊结石，对照组采用正常饲料进行饲养。连续8周后处死小鼠，以胆囊内出现胆固醇结石为造模成功标准，共20只，另匹配对照组小鼠20只。取血液、胆汁、结石及肝脏进行后续实验（图1）。

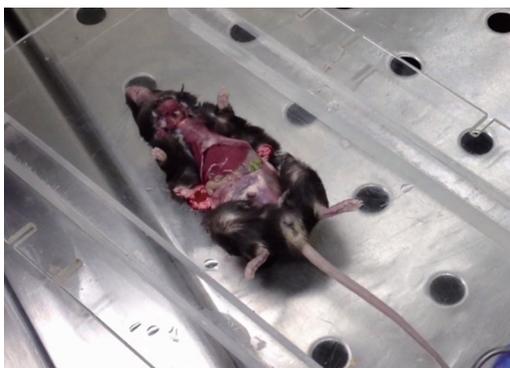


图1 模型动物取材

Figure 1 Sample harvest from the animal model

1.2 研究方法

1.2.1 胆囊结石化学成分分析 生理盐水反复冲洗胆囊结石至干净，晾干研磨后称取结石1 mg和溴化钾粉末100 mg，充分混合均匀后采用红外光谱分析法检测胆囊结石成分以确定是否为胆固醇结石。

1.2.2 脂质分析 使用BEKMAN公司的全自动生化分析仪采用酶法检测血清和胆汁总胆固醇（total cholesterol, TC）、甘油三酯（triglyceride, TG）、高密度脂蛋白（high-density lipoprotein, HDL）和低密度脂蛋白（low-density lipoprotein, LDL）等指标，计算胆固醇饱和指数（cholesterol saturation index, CSI）^[12]，所有试剂和耗材均来自BEKMAN公司。

1.2.3 高效液相色谱法检测血浆TMAO 测时取50 μL血浆，加入200 μL内标物（5 μmol/L），涡旋1 min，15 000 r/min、4 °C离心25 min，取上清液2 μL进行检测。按照高效液相色谱法（HPLC）检测血浆TMAO。流动相为A:B=80%:20%，流动相A为0.1%甲酸-水液，流动相B为甲醇；流速：0.5 mL/min；气体：氮气。质谱条件：离子源为电喷雾电离（ESI）；扫描方式为正离子模式，计算峰面积。

1.2.4 qRT-PCR检测 运用qRT-PCR检测肝脏组织FMO3 mRNA表达水平。提取肝脏组织总RNA，分别采用分光光度法和琼脂糖凝胶电泳检测RNA浓度、纯度和完整性。采用SYBR Green法进行qRT-PCR检测。Primer 5.0软件设计FMO3引物，引物序列见表1。Exicycler™ 96荧光定量仪进行实时荧光定量分析，结果采用 $2^{-\Delta\Delta Ct}$ 法计算基因的相对表达量。

表1 引物序列

Table 1 Primer sequence

名称	5'-3'
FMO3-F	AATTCGGGCTGTGATATTGC
FMO3-R	TTGAGGAAGGTTCCAAATCG
GAPDH-F	TGACGTGGACATCCGCAAAG
GAPDH-R	CTGGAAGGTGGACAGCCGAGG

1.3 统计学处理

采用SPSS 19.0软件进行统计学分析。正态分布计量资料采用均数±标准差（ $\bar{x} \pm s$ ）表示，两组间比较采用t检验；Spearman相关系数分析观测指标间的相关性；多因素Logistic回归分析危险因素。以P<0.05作为有统计学差异的标准。

2 结果

2.1 两组小鼠血脂和胆汁生化指标比较

与对照组相比,模型组血清TC、TG和LDL升高,HDL降低,均存在统计学差异(均 $P<0.05$)。同时,模型组胆汁TC、胆汁酸、磷脂和CSI明显高于对照组,差异均有统计学意义(均 $P<0.05$) (图2) (表2)。

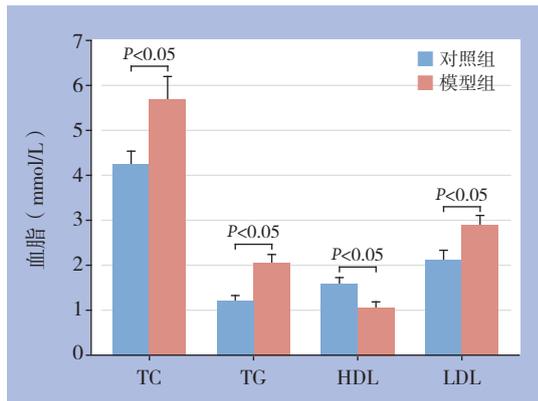


图2 两组小鼠血脂指标比较

Figure 2 Comparison of blood lipids between two groups of mice

表2 两组小鼠胆汁成分比较

Table 2 Comparison of bile components between two groups of mice

组别	TC (mmol/L)	胆汁酸 (mmol/L)	磷脂 (mmol/L)	CSI
模型组	12.06 ± 1.16	174.62 ± 15.12	32.23 ± 0.32	1.13 ± 0.11
对照组	6.21 ± 0.57	147.95 ± 12.32	25.62 ± 2.11	0.56 ± 0.03
t	6.195	6.267	6.189	6.132
P	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000

2.2 两组小鼠血浆 TMAO 比较

HPLC检测显示,模型组TMAO水平为(12.36 ± 1.06) μmol/L,对照组为(6.51 ± 0.59) μmol/L,模型组TMAO水平明显高于对照组,差异有统计学意义($P<0.05$) (图3)。

2.3 两组小鼠肝脏 FMO3 mRNA 表达

对照组FMO3 mRNA相对表达量为1.08 ± 0.09,模型组FMO3 mRNA相对表达量为2.19 ± 0.12,模型组FMO3 mRNA相对表达量明显高于对照组,差异有统计学意义($P<0.05$) (图4)。

2.4 FMO3 mRNA、TMAO 与血脂和胆汁成分相关性分析

Spearman相关系数分析显示,FMO3 mRNA、

TMAO与血浆TC、TG、LDL、胆汁TC、胆汁酸、磷脂和CSI均呈明显正相关(均 $P<0.05$),与HDL呈明显负相关($P<0.05$) (表3)。

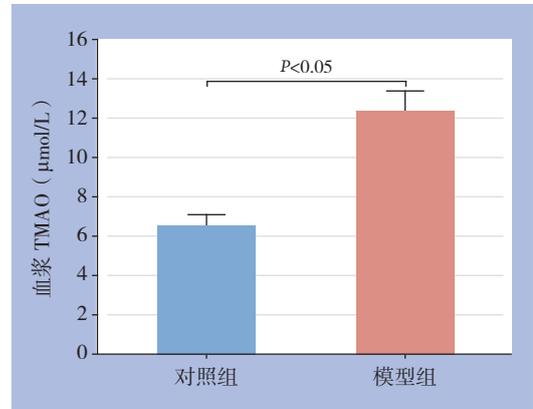


图3 两组小鼠血浆 TMAO 比较

Figure 3 Comparison of plasma TMAO levels between two groups of mice

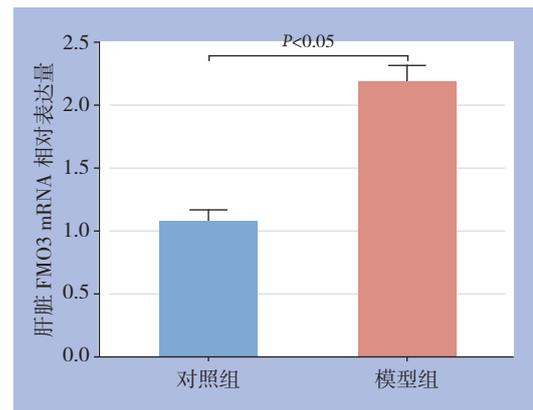


图4 两组小鼠肝脏 FMO3 mRNA 表达比较

Figure 4 Comparison of FMO3 mRNA expression levels in the liver between the two groups of mice

表3 FMO3 mRNA、TMAO 与血脂、胆汁成分相关性分析
Table 3 Correlation analysis of FMO3 mRNA and TMAO with blood lipid and bile composition

	FMO3 mRNA	TMAO
TC	0.727	0.693
TG	0.571	0.604
HDL	-0.621	-0.573
LDL	0.651	0.622
胆汁 TC	0.792	0.763
胆汁酸	0.703	0.651
磷脂	0.509	0.573
CSI	0.653	0.703

2.5 多因素 Logistic 回归分析危险因素

进一步分析FMO3 mRNA和TMAO是否为GCS

的危险因素,结果显示,FMO3 mRNA和TMAO是影响GCS的危险因素(均 $P<0.05$) (表4)。

表4 多因素logistics回归分析

Table 4 Multivariate Logistic regression analysis

因素	B	SE	OR	P	95% CI
FMO mRNA	2.621	0.269	1.862	0.000	1.354~2.625
TMAO	0.193	12.621	2.032	0.000	1.524~2.982

3 讨论

胆囊结石是较为常见的外科消化道疾病,且主要为GCS^[13-14]。近年来研究发现西藏地区胆结石的发病率为23%,且女性高于男性,约为男性两倍^[15-16]。高原地区胆囊结石的发病率明显高于平原地区,与高原地区特殊的自然环境、饮食习惯和饮食结构存在密切联系^[17]。目前已发现GCS形成的最基础的病理机制为胆固醇及胆汁酸代谢及分泌异常^[18]。肝脏合成的胆汁酸经胆道排入肠道,其代谢过程受肠道菌群的调节,而菌群的分布和结构又受胆汁酸影响^[19-20]。因此,探讨肠道微生态与GCS的关系有利于深入研究发病机制。

肠道菌群在生理条件下是肠道微环境的重要组成部分,在机体物质与能量的代谢、免疫功能完善及稳态调节等方面发挥重要作用。肠道菌群可通过其产生的多种代谢产物调节肝脏脂质和胆汁酸代谢^[21]。研究发现肠道菌群可将胆碱类物质代谢为TMA,经肠道吸收入血后进入肝脏氧化成TMAO参与脂质代谢^[22]。膳食干预同样会影响TMA生成及其氧化生成的TMAO,提示体内TMAO水平可以通过膳食结构的调整来调节^[23]。本研究发现,与对照组比较,模型组血清TC、TG和LDL升高,HDL降低(均 $P<0.05$),同时模型组胆汁TC、胆汁酸、磷脂和CSI明显高于对照组(均 $P<0.05$)。通过HPLC检测血浆TAMO发现模型组血浆TMAO水平明显高于对照组($P<0.05$),且模型组血浆TAMO水平比平原地区相似小鼠实验的结果高近2倍^[24]。这些结果说明高原地区的高脂饮食进一步增加体内TMAO水平从而导致脂质代谢异常。

FMO3是黄素单加氧酶家族成员,能催化许多亲核含硫和含氮异生物质的氧化,其中FMO3是胆固醇代谢的调节剂^[25]。正如在Miao等^[26]的研究中所见,FMO3敲除显著降低了LDLr-/-小鼠的

极低密度脂蛋白(VLDL)和LDL胆固醇水平,进而对动脉粥样硬化发挥了保护作用。FMO3能有效地催化肠道微生物来源的TMA形成TMAO,而TMAO在调节脂代谢方面具有重要作用,能导致动脉粥样硬化等疾病的发展^[27-29]。不仅如此,最新的研究证明,FMO3及其代谢产物TMAO共同参与了GCS的形成(平原地区)^[24]。脂质代谢紊乱是GCS形成过程中肝细胞所出现的重要表型变化,同时肠道微生物稳态是维持正常脂质代谢的重要基础,但FMO3和TMAO在高原GCS中的表达并未阐明清楚。本研究结果发现模型组血浆TMAO和肝脏FMO3 mRNA表达水平均明显高于对照组($P<0.05$),提示TMAO可作为胆固醇代谢和胆固醇逆向转运的工具,FMO3高表达可延缓胆囊中胆汁分泌,降低胆固醇的肠道吸收,抑制胆汁酸的代谢,长时间的胆汁酸减少则可引发胆固醇过饱和,从而出现了胆结石^[30]。为进一步明确两者的临床意义,分析两者与血脂和胆汁生化指标的相关性,结果显示血浆TAMO与肝脏FMO3与血浆TC、TG、LDL、胆汁TC、胆汁酸、磷脂和CSI均呈明显正相关($P<0.05$),而与HDL呈负相关($P<0.05$),表明TAMO与FMO3与脂质代谢紊乱存在明显关系,肠道微生态互为因果,互相促进疾病进展。最后通过多因素Logistic回归分析显示,TAMO与FMO3升高均为高原地区GCS小鼠的危险因素,表明TAMO与FMO3升高可能参与高原地区GCS的发病过程,提示及早检测两种水平可有助于及时为诊治提供依据。

综上所述,FMO3和TMAO在高原地区GCS小鼠呈高水平,与GCS的形成密切相关。未来的后续研究将通过细胞和动物实验进一步研究高原地区缺氧对FMO3的影响,以期GCS提供新的治疗干预点。

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