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· 专题研究 ·

血清 ANGPTL2 与胰腺癌临床病理特征的关系及其在胰腺癌诊断中的价值

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摘要

背景与目的: 胰腺癌临床起病隐匿, 患者确诊时大多数已属晚期, 失去了根治性治疗的机会。因此, 寻找一种新的生物标志物用于胰腺癌的诊断具有重要意义。本研究探讨胰腺癌患者血清血管生成素样蛋白 2 (ANGPTL2) 与病理特征的关系及其在胰腺癌诊断中的价值。

方法: 比较 125 例胰腺癌患者和 66 例健康体检者血清 ANGPTL2 水平; 用统计学方法分析胰腺癌患者血清 ANGPTL2 水平高低与临床病理参数、CA19-9 水平的关系以及胰腺癌的危险因素; 采用 ROC 曲线分析血清 ANGPTL2、血清 CA19-9 以及两者联合检测对胰腺癌的诊断效能。

结果: 胰腺癌患者血清平均 ANGPTL2 水平明显高于健康人群 (6.52 ng/mL vs. 3.78 ng/mL, $P < 0.05$); 胰腺癌患者血清 ANGPTL2 水平与肿瘤的大小、组织学分级、淋巴结转移和 TNM 分期密切相关 (均 $P < 0.05$), 而与性别、年龄、远处转移无关 (均 $P > 0.05$); 血清 ANGPTL2 水平与 CA19-9 水平呈明显正相关 ($r = 0.772$, $P < 0.001$); 单因素分析和多因素分析显示, 糖尿病 ($P = 0.016$) 和 ANGPTL2 ($P = 0.014$) 是引起胰腺癌的独立危险因素; 血清 ANGPTL2、CA19-9 及两者联合检测对胰腺癌诊断的 AUC 分别为 0.939、0.953、0.966, 特异度与阳性预测值分别为 92.4% 与 95.7%、84.8% 与 91.9%、98.5% 与 96.4%。

结论: 胰腺癌患者血清 ANGPTL2 水平升高, 其表达与临床病理特征密切相关; ANGPTL2 与 CA19-9 联合检测对胰腺癌的诊断具有一定价值。

关键词

胰腺肿瘤; 血管生成素样蛋白质类; 血清学试验; 生物标记; 肿瘤

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Association of serum ANGPTL2 with clinicopathologic features of pancreatic cancer and its diagnostic value for pancreatic cancer

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Abstract

Background and Aims: The onset of pancreatic cancer is insidious and most of the patients were diagnosed at an advanced stage, thus losing the chance of radical treatment. Therefore, finding a new biomarker for the diagnosis of pancreatic cancer is of great significance. This study was conducted to investigate the association of the serum angiopoietin-like protein 2 (ANGPTL2) in pancreatic cancer patients with the clinicopathologic characteristics and its application value in diagnosis of pancreatic cancer.

Methods: Serum ANGPTL2 levels between 125 pancreatic cancer patients and 66 healthy subjects were compared. The relations of serum ANGPTL2 level with the clinicopathologic variables and CA19-9 level as well as the risk factors for pancreatic cancer were analyzed by statistical methods. ROC curve was used to analyze the diagnostic abilities of serum ANGPTL2, serum CA19-9 and their combined detection for pancreatic cancer.

Results: The average serum level of ANGPTL2 in pancreatic cancer patients was significantly higher than that in healthy individuals (6.52 ng/mL vs. 3.78 ng/mL, $P < 0.05$). The serum ANGPTL2 level in pancreatic cancer patients was significantly related to tumor size, histological grade, lymph node metastasis and TNM stage (all $P < 0.05$), and irrelevant to sex, age and distant metastasis (all $P > 0.05$). There was a significant positive correlation between serum ANGPTL2 level and CA19-9 level ($r = 0.772$, $P < 0.001$). Univariate and multivariate analysis showed that diabetes mellitus ($P = 0.016$) and ANGPTL2 ($P = 0.014$) were independent risk factors for pancreatic cancer. The AUC values of serum ANGPTL2, CA19-9 and their combined detection for diagnosis of pancreatic cancer were 0.939, 0.953 and 0.966, with the specificity/positive predictive value of 92.4%/95.7%, 84.8%/91.9%, and 98.5%/96.4%.

Conclusion: Serum ANGPTL2 level is elevated in pancreatic cancer patients. The ANGPTL2 level is closely related to the clinicopathologic features. The combined detection of ANGPTL2 and CA19-9 has certain value in diagnosis of pancreatic cancer.

Key words

Pancreatic Neoplasms; Angiopoietin-like Proteins; Serologic Tests; Biomarkers; Tumor

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胰腺癌是一种致命性疾病。据美国癌症协会统计,仅2019年美国大约有55 770例被诊断为胰腺癌,而其中约45 750例死于该疾病^[1-2];在我国,胰腺癌患者5年总生存率不足10%^[3]。目前仍然缺乏胰腺癌检测的敏感方法和有效的治疗手段,并且大部分胰腺癌患者在确诊时都有无法切除的局部浸润灶或转移灶,导致其无法治愈^[4]。长期以来,临床上普遍采用特异度较差的胰腺癌肿瘤标记物—血清中糖类抗原19-9(carbohydrate antigen 19-9, CA19-9),用于胰腺癌的筛查和辅助诊断;而CA19-9又称为胃肠道相关抗原,在胰腺癌^[5-6]、胆管癌^[7-8]、结肠癌^[9-10]和胃癌^[11-12]等肿瘤中都会升高。不仅如此,CA19-9水平的升高常发生在胰腺癌的晚期。因此,发现潜在的胰腺癌标志物,并探索其与临床病理特征的关系,对于胰腺癌的诊断和预后判断具有重要意义。血管生成素样蛋白2(angiotensin-like protein 2, ANGPTL2)由Kim等^[13]在1999年首次确认及克隆,是分子质量为57kDa的分泌性糖蛋白。

ANGPTL2具有广泛的生物学功能,在炎症^[14]、肿瘤^[15-16]、肥胖、胰岛素抵抗及相关代谢性疾病^[17-18]中均见报道,而上述因素几乎都是胰腺癌的高危因素,因此笔者推测ANGPTL2有成为胰腺癌诊断标志物的潜质。本研究检测胰腺癌患者血清ANGPTL2水平,探讨其用于胰腺癌诊断的实用价值和与临床病理特征的关系,以期为胰腺癌的临床诊断及评估提供参考。

1 资料与方法

1.1 一般资料

收集2015年1月—2018年1月间在广西医科大学第一附属医院、广西医科大学附属肿瘤医院、广西医科大学附属武鸣医院被确诊为胰腺癌的125例患者的血清标本。其中,男69例,女56例,分别占有所有患者的55.2%、44.8%,男女比例为1.23:1;年龄为(62.06 ± 8.27)岁。纳入标准:(1)留取血清标本后行胰腺癌根治手术或姑

息手术,术前穿刺或术后经病理诊断证实为胰腺导管腺癌者;(2)术前未进行放射治疗、化学治疗、新辅助治疗或免疫治疗;(3)具有完整的临床和随访信息。排除标准:(1)合并其他部位恶性肿瘤患者;(2)有既往恶性肿瘤病史者;(3)临床资料不完整者。另选同期健康体检者66例作为健康对照组,其中男36例,女30例;年龄为(62.91±8.77)岁。本研究经医院医学伦理委员会核准,所有入组者均签署知情同意书。

1.2 试剂与仪器

血清ANGPTL2的检测使用中国武汉USCN生命科学股份有限公司生产的ELISA试剂盒,仪器为美国Thermo公司生产的Multiskan酶标仪。

1.3 观察指标

记录所有入组者的基本临床资料,包括年龄、性别、肿瘤大小、有无淋巴结转移、有无远处转移、组织学分级、肿瘤分期等;其中肿瘤分期采用2018版美国癌症联合委员会(American Joint Committee on Cancer, AJCC)推出的胰腺癌分期系统进行分期;记录所有入组者的实验室指标;同时以胰腺癌组患者ANGPTL2水平的平均值为界把胰腺癌患者分为ANGPTL2高表达组和ANGPTL2低表达组。

1.4 实验方法及步骤

用ELISA法测定血清ANGPTL2浓度。根据试

剂盒要求在室温下严格进行试验操作,检测波长为450 nm。所有样本设置2个复孔检测A值,并根据标准曲线换算为浓度,结果取平均值。

1.5 统计学处理

使用SPSS 18.0及Graph Prism 5.0软件对数据进行统计学分析。正态分布的计量资料以均数±标准差($\bar{x} \pm s$)表示,两样本均数比较采用t检验;计数资料采用 χ^2 检验;相关性分析使用Spearman检验;胰腺癌危险因素采用单因素和多因素分析;诊断价值及联合诊断价值采用ROC曲线进行分析,曲线下面积(area under curve, AUC)>0.700提示诊断价值较高; $P<0.05$ 为差异有统计学意义。

2 结果

2.1 一般情况及实验室指标

胰腺癌组和健康对照组的一般情况及实验室指标比较,两组年龄和性别差异无统计学意义(均 $P>0.05$);胰腺癌组身体质量指数(body mass index, BMI)和总胆固醇水平均低于健康对照组,差异有统计学意义(均 $P<0.05$);胰腺癌组C反应蛋白、ANGPTL2、CA19-9、甘油三酯水平均高于健康对照组,差异有统计学意义(均 $P<0.05$) (表1)。

表1 一般情况及实验室指标

Table 1 General condition and laboratory indexes

项目	胰腺癌组 (n=125)	健康对照组 (n=66)	t/ χ^2	P
年龄(岁, $\bar{x} \pm s$)	62.06 ± 8.27	62.91 ± 8.78	-0.657	0.512
性别[n(%)]			0.007	0.931
男	69 (55.20)	36 (54.55)		
女	56 (44.80)	30 (45.45)		
BMI (kg/m ² , $\bar{x} \pm s$)	23.86 ± 2.03	25.16 ± 2.00	-4.248	<0.001
C反应蛋白 (mg/dL, $\bar{x} \pm s$)	1.73 ± 0.66	0.24 ± 0.12	24.307	<0.001
ANGPTL2 (ng/mL, $\bar{x} \pm s$)	6.52 ± 1.49	3.78 ± 0.61	17.961	<0.001
CA19-9 (U/mL, $\bar{x} \pm s$)	123.16 ± 84.84	19.23 ± 18.12	13.141	<0.001
总胆固醇 (mg/dL, $\bar{x} \pm s$)	173.10 ± 23.14	186.00 ± 22.34	-3.706	<0.001
甘油三酯 (mg/dL, $\bar{x} \pm s$)	121.09 ± 27.50	97.59 ± 25.55	5.752	<0.001

2.2 血清 ANGPTL2 水平与胰腺癌患者临床病理特征的关系

胰腺癌患者血清ANGPTL2的高表达与肿瘤的大小、组织学分级、淋巴结转移和TNM分期密切相关(均 $P<0.05$),而与性别、年龄、远处转移

无关(均 $P>0.05$) (表2)。

2.3 血清 ANGPTL2 水平与 CA19-9 水平的相关性

Pearson相关性分析结果显示,血清ANGPTL2水平与CA19-9水平呈明显正相关($r=0.772$, $P<0.001$) (图1)。

表2 血清 ANGPTL2 水平与胰腺癌患者临床病理特征的关系 [n (%)]

Table 2 Relations of ANGPTL2 level with the clinicopathologic factors of Pancreatic Cancer patients [n (%)]

临床病理参数	n	ANGPTL2		χ^2	P
		高表达	低表达		
性别					
男	69	16 (23.19)	53 (76.81)	0.214	0.643
女	56	15 (26.79)	41 (73.21)		
年龄 (岁)				0.004	0.952
≥ 60	72	54 (75.00)	18 (25.00)		
< 60	53	40 (75.47)	13 (24.53)		
肿瘤大小 (cm)				53.038	<0.001
≤ 2	23	3 (13.04)	20 (86.96)		
> 2~4	85	75 (88.24)	10 (11.76)		
> 4	17	16 (94.12)	1 (5.88)		
组织学分级				23.934	<0.001
低分化	49	42 (85.71)	7 (14.29)		
中分化	55	45 (81.82)	10 (18.18)		
高分化	21	7 (33.33)	14 (66.67)		
淋巴结转移				26.283	<0.001
有	62	59 (95.16)	3 (4.84)		
无	63	35 (55.56)	28 (44.44)		
远处转移				3.81	0.051
有	14	14 (100.00)	0 (0.00)		
无	111	80 (72.07)	31 (27.93)		
TNM 分期				59.821	<0.001
I 期	23	3 (13.04)	20 (86.96)		
II 期	50	42 (84.00)	8 (16.00)		
III-IV 期	52	49 (94.23)	3 (5.77)		

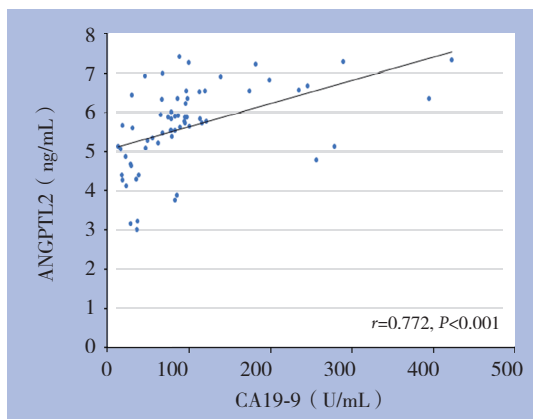


图1 血清 ANGPTL2 与 CA19-9 的相关性分析

Figure 1 Correlation analysis of serum ANGPTL2 and CA19-9

2.4 胰腺癌危险因素的单因素和多因素分析

单因素分析显示, 糖尿病 ($P=0.002$)、高血压 ($P=0.041$)、甘油三酯 ($P=0.009$) 和 ANGPTL2 ($P=0.002$) 是引起胰腺癌的危险因素

(表3)。多因素分析显示, 糖尿病 ($P=0.016$) 和 ANGPTL2 ($P=0.014$) 是引起胰腺癌的危险因素 (表4)。

表3 胰腺癌危险因素单变量分析

Table 3 Univariate analysis of risk factors for pancreatic cancer

因素	β	P	OR (95% CI)
年龄	-0.159	0.386	0.821 (0.537~1.254)
性别	-0.348	0.561	0.688 (0.219~2.238)
糖尿病	2.231	0.002	15.044 (3.301~71.896)
高血压	1.368	0.041	3.879 (1.117~13.645)
吸烟	-0.131	0.872	0.879 (0.191~4.221)
BMI	0.026	0.053	1.031 (1.008~1.052)
C 反应蛋白	-0.304	0.879	0.748 (0.026~10.765)
总胆固醇	-0.012	0.269	0.989 (0.967~1.008)
甘油三酯	0.038	0.009	1.032 (1.019~1.063)
ANGPTL2	2.185	0.002	9.033 (2.307~36.141)

表4 胰腺癌危险因素多变量分析

Table 4 Multivariate analysis of risk factors for pancreatic cancer

因素	β	P	OR (95% CI)
糖尿病	2.465	0.016	16.273 (3.489~72.328)
ANGPTL2	2.236	0.014	9.527 (2.361~36.832)

2.5 血清 ANGPTL2、CA19-9 及两者联合检测对胰腺癌的诊断价值

ROC曲线分析显示, 血清CA19-9用于胰腺癌诊断的AUC为0.953 (95% CI=0.927~0.979), 血清ANGPTL2用于胰腺癌诊断的AUC为0.939 (95% CI=0.905~0.973) (图2A); ANGPTL2联合CA19-9用于胰腺癌诊断的AUC为0.966 (95% CI=0.944~0.987) (图2B)。CA19-9单独用于胰腺癌诊断取临界值为25.035时, 诊断敏感度为91.2%, 特异度为84.8%, 阳性预测值为91.9%, 阴性预测值为83.6%, Youden指数为0.760。ANGPTL2单独用于胰腺癌诊断取临界值为4.555时, 诊断敏感度为88.8%, 特异度为92.4%, 阳性预测值为95.7%, 阴性预测值为81.3%, Youden指数为0.812。ANGPTL2+CA19-9联合诊断胰腺癌取临界值为6.344时, 诊断敏感度为86.4%, 特异度为98.5%, 阳性预测值为96.4%, 阴性预测值为80.2%, Youden指数为0.849 (表5)。

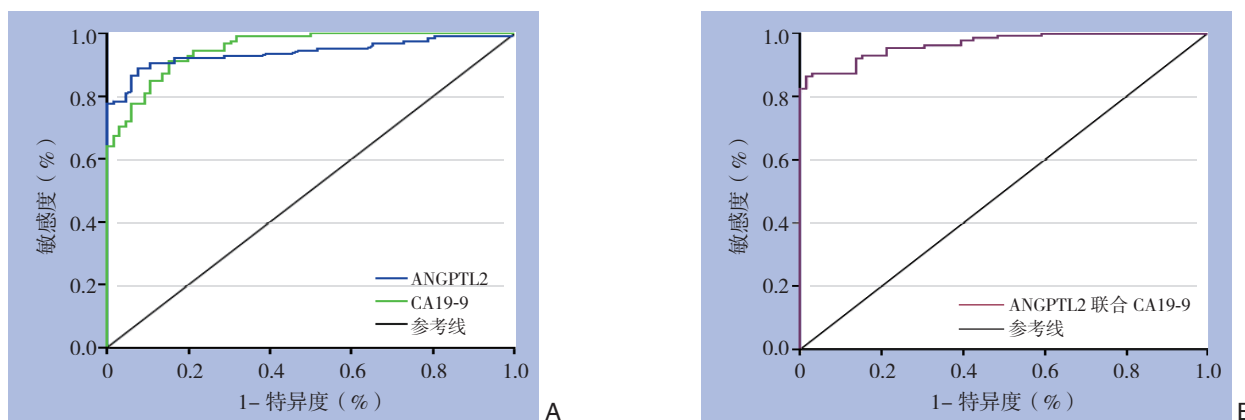


图2 ROC曲线 A: 血清 ANGPTL2 与 CA19-9 用于胰腺癌诊断的 ROC 曲线; B: 血清 ANGPTL2 联合 CA19-9 用于胰腺癌诊断的 ROC 曲线

Figure 2 ROC curves A: ROC curves of serum ANGPTL2 and CA19-9 for pancreatic cancer diagnosis; B: ROC curve of combined detection of ANGPTL2 and CA19-9 for pancreatic cancer diagnosis

表5 血清 ANGPTL2、CA19-9 对胰腺癌的诊断价值

Table 5 Diagnostic value of serum ANGPTL2 and CA19-9 in pancreatic cancer

指标	AUC	临界值	95% CI	阳性预测值 (%)	阴性预测值 (%)	敏感度 (%)	特异度 (%)
ANGPTL2	0.939	4.555	0.905~0.973	95.7	81.3	88.8	92.4
CA19-9	0.953	25.035	0.927~0.979	91.9	83.6	91.2	84.8
联合诊断	0.966	6.344	0.944~0.987	96.4	80.2	86.4	98.5

3 讨论

胰腺癌是一种高度恶性肿瘤，但由于其发病早期症状和体征不典型，容易引起误诊和漏诊。目前对于胰腺癌的诊断主要依赖于B超引导下穿刺病理活检，难以应用于大规模人群的筛查。血清学生物标志物CA19-9虽然检测较为方便，但是仍存在特异度不足和敏感度不高的缺点。因此，寻找新的检测指标用于胰腺癌的诊断和病情判断有着重要意义。

众所周知，恶性肿瘤的发生进展与肿瘤细胞或肿瘤微环境中细胞分泌因子表达的改变有关。有报道，血管生成素样蛋白家族 (angiopoietin-like proteins, ANGPTL) 也参与到细胞癌变和转移的过程中。目前发现ANGPTL有7个成员，即ANGPTL1至7。ANGPTL家族都包含N端的卷曲-螺旋结构域 (coiled-coil domain, CCD) 和C端的纤维蛋白原样结构域 (fibrinogen-like domain, FLD)，即与血管生成素具有一定的同源性和相似的结构域。但是，ANGPTL家族成员都不能与血管生成素受体酪氨酸激酶Tie1或Tie2结合^[19]。该家族中的ANGPTL2在N末端具有高度疏水区域和两个连续共有的N-糖基化位

点，其编码基因位于人类染色体9q34。ANGPTL2基因在不同物种之间进化上非常保守，例如小鼠和人ANGPTL2基因的核苷酸序列相似度高达89%，这间接说明ANGPTL2蛋白具有非常重要的功能。进一步研究发现，只有经过N-糖基化修饰的、分泌到胞外的ANGPTL2才能对靶细胞起作用。一旦分泌到细胞外，ANGPTL2就参与到一些重要的生理和病理过程中，并发挥关键作用，如：诱导血管生成和血管内皮细胞的迁移、抗细胞凋亡、发挥生长因子的作用、促进炎症反应等^[20]。最早对ANGPTL2的研究集中于类风湿关节炎^[21]、II型糖尿病^[22-23]、冠状动脉疾病^[23]等。近年来，随着人们对ANGPTL2研究的不断深入，发现ANGPTL2还与胃癌、白血病、肠癌、肺癌、肝癌、胰腺癌等恶性肿瘤^[24-31]的发生发展有关。关于ANGPTL2促进胰腺癌发生发展的机制，有学者通过体外细胞学实验进行了一系列研究。研究表明，沉默ANGPTL2的表达可以逆转上皮-间质转化 (epithelial-to-mesenchymal transition, EMT)，减少细胞的迁移；阻断细胞中ANGPTL2的受体-白细胞免疫球蛋白样受体B2 (leukocyte immunoglobulin-like receptors B2, LILRB2)，可抑制ANGPTL2诱导的细胞增殖和侵袭^[31]。

本研究发现, ANGPTL2在胰腺癌患者血清中的水平明显高于健康对照组, 差异有统计学意义 ($P<0.05$)。单因素和多因素分析证实ANGPTL2是引起胰腺癌的独立危险因素 ($P=0.014$)。胰腺癌患者血清ANGPTL2的高表达与肿瘤的大小、组织学分级、淋巴结转移和TNM分期密切相关 (均 $P<0.05$), 而与性别、年龄、远处转移无关 (均 $P>0.05$)。肿瘤越大、肿瘤组织分化程度越低, 血清中ANGPTL2越趋向于高表达; 有淋巴结转移及远处转移的患者与未发生淋巴结转移及远处转移的患者相比, 血清中ANGPTL2趋向于高表达。在临床病理TNM分期中, III~IV期患者与I~II期患者相比, 血清中ANGPTL2趋向于高表达。这些结果都表明胰腺癌患者血清ANGPTL2水平随着癌细胞生物状态的改变而改变, 在一定程度上反映了肿瘤的发生、发展过程。Pearson相关性分析显示, 血清ANGPTL2水平与CA19-9水平呈显著正相关; 而CA19-9是目前常用的胰腺癌筛查指标, 即提示我们: 血清ANGPTL2也有可能成为胰腺癌辅助诊断的实验室指标用于胰腺癌的筛查。目前仅有1篇外文文献初步探讨了血清ANGPTL2单独或联合CA19-9对胰腺癌的诊断价值, 但该研究样本例数太少^[32]。本研究分别探讨了血清ANGPTL2、CA19-9及ANGPTL2联合CA19-9对胰腺癌的诊断价值, 结果发现血清ANGPTL2、CA19-9及ANGPTL2联合CA19-9对胰腺癌均具有较高的诊断价值, 其中联合检测时的特异度 (98.5%) 和阳性预测值 (96.4%) 是最高的, 因此联合检测可提高对胰腺癌的诊断效能。与其他研究相比, 联合检测ANGPTL2和CA19-9进行胰腺癌筛查的方法简便易行, 价格低廉, 利于推广应用。而对胰腺癌标志物的探索有助于临床及时诊断和治疗, 延长患者生存时间, 改善远期预后, 具有重要的临床应用价值。

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