



doi:10.7659/j.issn.1005-6947.2021.11.009
http://dx.doi.org/10.7659/j.issn.1005-6947.2021.11.009
Chinese Journal of General Surgery, 2021, 30(11):1334-1342.

· 基础研究 ·

基于公共数据库的甲状腺癌预后风险基因筛选

曾杰¹, 杨秋怡¹, 张志鹏², 范培芝¹, 张超杰¹, 廖雯²

(1. 湖南师范大学附属第一医院/湖南省人民医院 乳甲外科, 湖南 长沙 410005; 2. 中南大学湘雅医院 老年外科, 湖南 长沙 410008)

摘要

背景与目的: 甲状腺癌的发病率呈逐年增长趋势, 尽管其总体预后较好, 但仍有部分患者因复发或转移而死亡。本研究旨在基于公共数据库应用生物信息学方法筛选甲状腺癌的预后风险基因。

方法: 从癌症RNA测序关系(CRN)数据库下载甲状腺癌蛋白编码基因RNA-seq数据, 筛选甲状腺癌中差异表达的蛋白编码基因。通过DAVID数据库对差异表达的蛋白编码基因进行功能富集分析。用STRING数据库和Cytoscape软件构建差异表达蛋白编码基因之间的相互作用网络, 分别用Cytoscape软件中的cytoHubba插件与ClueGO插件筛选核心基因, 并对核心基因进行功能预测。用UALCAN数据库验证核心基因在甲状腺癌中的表达水平, 通过GEPIA数据库对核心基因进行生存分析, 分析核心基因的表达水平对甲状腺癌的生存时间有无影响。

结果: 筛选共得到913个差异表达的蛋白编码基因。这些基因主要富集于调控小分子GTP酶介导的信号转导、Z膜、结合肌动蛋白和细胞色素P450介导的药物代谢。构建互作网络后, 筛选出10个核心基因, 分别为TP53、ESR1、FOS、SYP、PPARG、ACTB、GRIA1、NRXN1、HDAC3和KIT, 其中TP53得分最高, 为62, 它们均在甲状腺癌组织中表达下调; 预测显示核心基因TP53、ESR1、PPARG可能参与了基因沉默的负性调控, TP53、FOS可能参与了RNA聚合酶II对pri-miRNA的转录调控过程。UALCAN数据库验证结果显示, 除TP53外, 其余核心基因均在甲状腺癌组织中表达下调(均 $P < 0.05$), 与CRN数据库中的表达结果一致。生存分析结果显示, KIT的高表达与甲状腺癌患者的无病生存期明显相关($P=0.012$), 而对其总体生存期无明显影响($P=0.85$)。

结论: 本研究筛选的蛋白编码基因KIT在甲状腺癌组织中呈低表达, 其高表达与甲状腺癌患者的无病生存期密切相关, 推测其可能成为甲状腺癌的预后风险标志物或治疗靶点。

关键词

甲状腺肿瘤; 基因表达谱; 预后; 计算生物学

中图分类号: R736.1

Identification of prognostic risk genes for thyroid cancer based on public databases

ZENG Jie¹, YANG Qiuyi¹, ZHANG Zhipeng², FAN Peizhi¹, ZHANG Chaojie¹, LIAO Wen²

(1. Department of Breast and Thyroid Surgery, the First Affiliated Hospital of Hunan Normal University/Hunan Provincial People's Hospital, Changsha 410005, China; 2. Department of Geriatric Surgery, Xiangya Hospital, Central South University, Changsha 410008, China)

基金项目: 湖南省长沙市科技计划基金资助项目(kq1907061); 湖南省教育厅优秀青年基金资助项目(20B355)。

收稿日期: 2021-07-16; **修订日期:** 2021-10-16。

作者简介: 曾杰, 湖南师范大学附属第一医院/湖南省人民医院副主任医师, 主要从事乳腺及甲状腺疾病临床与基础方面的研究。

通信作者: 曾杰, Email: zengjie227@126.com

Abstract

Background and Aims: The incidence of thyroid cancer is increasing over years. Although its overall prognosis is favorable, some patients still die due to recurrence or metastasis. The purpose of this study was to screen the prognostic risk genes for thyroid carcinoma using bioinformatics approaches based on public databases.

Methods: The protein-coding gene RNA-seq data of thyroid cancer were downloaded from Cancer RNA-Seq Nexus (CRN) database and the differentially expressed protein-coding genes were screened. Then, enrichment analysis of the differentially expressed protein-coding genes was performed using the DAVID database. Protein-protein interaction networks among the differentially expressed protein-coding genes were constructed and analyzed using STRING and Cytoscape. The hub genes and their functional prediction were screened by the Cytohubba and ClueGO plugins, respectively. The expression level of hub genes was verified in thyroid cancer based on the UALCAN database, and survival analysis of hub genes was conducted in the GEPIA database to analyze whether their expression had an impact on the survival time of thyroid cancer.

Results: A total of 913 differentially expressed protein-coding genes were obtained after screening. These genes were mainly involved in regulation of small GTPase mediated signal transduction, Z disc, actin binding and drug metabolism-cytochrome P450. After construction of interaction networks, 10 hub genes were screened and they were TP53, ESR1, FOS, SYP, PPARG, ACTB, GRIA1, NRXN1, HDAC3 and KIT, of which TP53 had the highest score of 62. All of them were down-regulated in thyroid cancer tissue. Prediction results revealed that TP53, ESR1 and PPARG were probably involved in negative regulation of gene silencing, and TP53 and FOS were probably involved in the process of pri-miRNA transcription by RNA polymerase II. Results of verification in the UALCAN database showed that all except TP53, all other hub genes were down-regulated in thyroid cancer tissues (all $P < 0.05$), which was consistent with the expression results in the CRN database. Results of survival analysis showed that high expression of KIT was significantly associated with disease-free survival of thyroid cancer patients ($P = 0.012$), but had no significant effect on their overall survival ($P = 0.85$).

Conclusion: The identified protein-coding gene KIT has a low expression in thyroid cancer tissue, and its high expression is closely associated with the disease-free survival of thyroid cancer, which is speculated to be a prognostic risk marker or therapeutic target for thyroid cancer.

Key words

Thyroid Neoplasms; Gene Expression Profiling; Prognosis; Computational Biology

CLC number: R736.1

甲状腺癌是最常见的内分泌系统的恶性肿瘤,其发病率在过去 10 年间持续攀升^[1]。它的平均年增长率约为 6.6%,在 2000—2009 年美国所有癌症中增长速度最高^[2]。在过去几十年里,甲状腺癌在许多国家达到了 3 倍的增长率^[3-4]。最新的全球癌症统计资料显示,2018 年全球甲状腺癌的新发病例为 567 000 例,在发病率中排名第九,占有所有癌症新发病例的 5.1%,且女性发病率是男性的 3 倍多^[5]。值得庆幸的是,其病死率较低,约占所有癌症死亡病例的 0.4%~0.5%^[5]。甲状腺癌起源于滤泡上皮细胞或滤泡旁 C 细胞,其中滤泡上皮来源的甲状腺癌可分为四种病理类型:乳头状癌(80%~

85%)、滤泡状癌(10%~15%)、低分化癌(<2%)和未分化癌(<2%),乳头状癌和滤泡状癌合称为高分化甲状腺癌,占全部甲状腺癌的绝大多数^[6]。尽管通过手术、甲状腺激素和放射性碘治疗后,高分化甲状腺癌的预后较好,但仍有一部分患者因复发或转移而死亡^[6-7]。此外,甲状腺细针穿刺细胞学检查是甲状腺癌术前诊断最可靠的检查手段,但该检查结果中仍然有 10%~40% 具有不确定性^[8-9]。而且,单纯依靠细针穿刺细胞学检查诊断甲状腺微小乳头状癌也有较高的假阴性率^[10]。有研究^[11]报道,细针穿刺细胞学检查联合生物标志物检测可提高甲状腺癌的诊断准确率。因此,发

现和探索新的生物标志物或治疗靶点可能有助于改善甲状腺癌患者的诊断和治疗效果。

1 资料与方法

1.1 数据来源

本研究从癌症RNA测序关系 (Cancer RNA-seq Nexus, CRN) 数据库下载甲状腺癌蛋白编码基因RNA-seq数据^[12], 总计564例样本, 其中癌旁正常组织59例, 甲状腺癌组织505例, 后者又再分为I期283例、II期53例、III期112例, IVA期46例、IVC期6例和M1期5例。

1.2 筛选甲状腺癌中差异表达的蛋白编码基因

由于CRN数据库是从癌症基因组图谱 (The Cancer Genome Atlas, TCGA) 数据库下载的甲状腺癌蛋白编码基因RNA-seq数据, 并对这些数据进行了注释、标准化及差异表达分析, 将 $P < 0.01$ 作为统计学差异指标。因此, 我们可以直接使用从CRN数据库中筛选出来的蛋白编码基因进行后续研究。为了保证数据的可靠性, 取甲状腺癌各临床分期中差异表达蛋白编码基因的交集进行研究, 通过omicshare (<http://www.omicshare.com>) 云平台绘制Venn图^[13]。

1.3 差异表达蛋白编码基因的功能预测

DAVID (<https://david.ncifcrf.gov>) 数据库为研究人员提供了一套全面的功能注释工具, 以理解大量基因背后的生物学意义^[14]。通过DAVID数据库对上述得到的差异表达蛋白编码基因进行功能富集分析, 分析内容包括基因本体论 (gene ontology, GO) 的生物学过程 (biological process, BP)、细胞成分 (cellular component, CC)、分子功能 (molecular function, MF) 以及京都基因和基因组百科全书 (Kyoto Encyclopedia of Genes and Genomes, KEGG) 的信号通路。分析结果使用R语言的ggplot2包呈现出来, $P < 0.05$ 认为有统计学差异。

1.4 筛选差异表达蛋白编码基因中的核心基因

STRING (<https://www.string-db.org/>) 是一个分析已知或预测蛋白质之间相互作用的数据库^[15]。通过STRING数据库对上述筛选到的差异表达蛋白编码基因之间的相互作用网络进行预测和可视化,

将有实验证实且互作分数 >0.4 的蛋白编码基因筛选出来, 并在Cytoscape软件中重建互作网络。使用Cytoscape软件中cytoHubba插件筛选核心基因, 使用ClueGO插件对核心基因进行功能预测^[16-18]。

1.5 验证核心基因在甲状腺癌中的表达水平

UALCAN (<http://ualcan.path.uab.edu>) 数据库为用户提供了简易获取肿瘤OMICS数据 (包括TCGA、MET500和CPTAC数据资源) 的途径, 允许用户对感兴趣的基因进行生物信息学验证, 并可以对基因的表达水平进行图像展示^[19]。本研究通过UALCAN数据库验证核心基因在甲状腺癌中的表达水平, $P < 0.05$ 认为有统计学意义。

1.6 核心基因在甲状腺癌中的生存分析

GEPIA (<http://gepia.cancer-pku.cn>) 是一个新开发的用于分析TCGA和GTEX项目收录的癌症RNA-seq数据的网站, 它可为用户提供恶性肿瘤的差异表达分析、生存分析、相似基因检测、相关性分析和降维分析^[20]。本研究基于GEPIA数据库分析核心基因对甲状腺癌患者生存状态的影响, $P < 0.05$ 认为差异有统计学意义。

2 结果

2.1 筛选甲状腺癌中差异表达的蛋白编码基因

通过比较各临床分期甲状腺癌与癌旁正常组织中蛋白编码基因的表达水平, 得到各临床分期中差异表达的蛋白编码基因, 再取各临床分期中差异表达蛋白编码基因的交集进行后续研究。最终, 本研究共筛选得到913个差异表达的蛋白编码基因 (图1)。

2.2 差异表达蛋白编码基因的功能预测

借助于DAVID数据库, 本研究对上述得到的913个差异表达的蛋白编码基因进行功能富集分析, 每个项目分析后的前10个结果以气泡图的形式展现出来 (图2)。结果显示, 上述得到的差异表达蛋白编码基因可能参与了调控小分子GTP酶介导的信号转导 (GO-BP)、Z膜 (GO-CC)、结合肌动蛋白 (GO-MF) 和细胞色素P450介导的药物代谢 (KEGG pathway)。

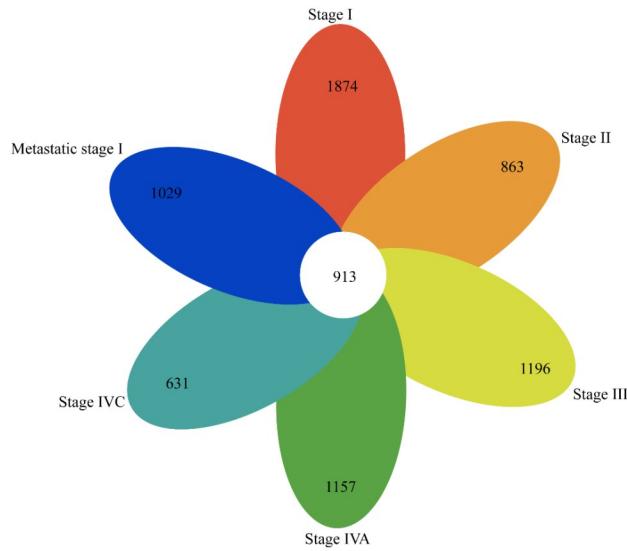


图 1 甲状腺癌各临床分期中差异表达蛋白编码基因的 Venn 图 (不同颜色花瓣中的数字代表各临床分期中差异表达蛋白编码基因的数目, 图片中央白色区域中的数字为各临床分期中差异表达蛋白编码基因的交集)

Figure 1 Venn diagram of the differentially expressed protein-coding genes in thyroid cancer of different clinical stages (the number in petals with different colors representing the number of the differentially expressed protein-coding genes of different clinical stages, and the number in the central region in white color representing the overlap of the differentially expressed protein-coding genes of different clinical stages)

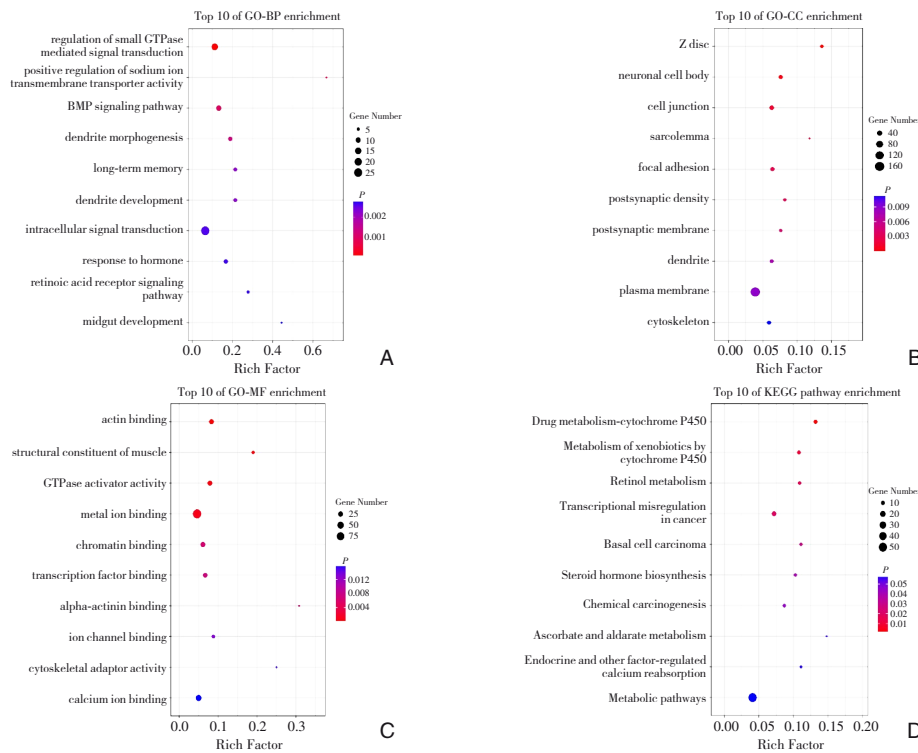


图 2 差异表达蛋白编码基因的功能富集分析 (左侧的 Y 轴显示功能富集分析结果; 下方的 X 轴表示参与 BP、CC、MF 和 KEGG 的基因所占的百分比; 气泡大小表示参与 BP、CC、MF 和 KEGG 的基因数目, 气泡越大表示参与的基因越多; 气泡颜色代表 P 值的大小, 颜色由红至蓝代表 P 值越大) A-D: 分别显示了这些差异表达基因可能参与的前 10 个 BP、CC、MF 和 KEGG 结果

Figure 2 Enrichment analysis of the differentially expressed protein-coding genes (the left Y axis showing the results of enrichment analysis, the inferior X axis showing the percentages of genes involved in BP, CC, MF and KEGG, the bigger of the bubble, the larger number of genes involved; the color of the bubble standing for the level of the P-value, and the level increasing from the red color to blue color) A-D: The results of BP, CC, MF and KEGG of the top ten differentially expressed genes

2.3 核心基因的筛选及功能预测

通过 Cytoscape 软件重建差异表达蛋白编码基因之间的互作网络，使用 Cytoscape 软件中 cytoHubba 插件计算每个节点的得分，将得分最高的前 10 个基因定义为核心基因，分别为 TP53、ESR1、FOS、SYP、PPARG、ACTB、GRIA1、NRXN1、HDAC3 和 KIT（图 3），其中 TP53 得分最

高，为 62；使用 ClueGO 插件对核心基因参与的生物学过程进行功能预测， $P < 0.05$ 认为差异有统计学意义，结果显示核心基因 TP53、ESR1、PPARG 可能参与了基因沉默的负性调控，TP53、FOS 可能参与了 RNA 聚合酶 II 对 pri-miRNA 的转录过程（图 4）。

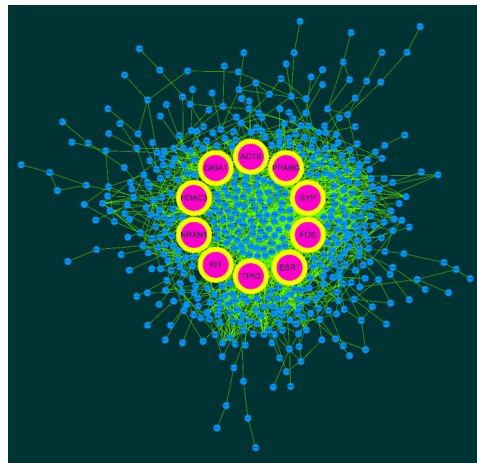


图3 差异表达蛋白编码基因的相互作用网络图（图中的节点代表每个差异表达的蛋白编码基因，黄边粉色节点代表核心基因）
Figure 3 Interaction networks of the differentially expressed protein-coding genes (each node indicating a differentially expressed protein-coding gene, and the nodes in pink color with yellow border indicating the hub genes)

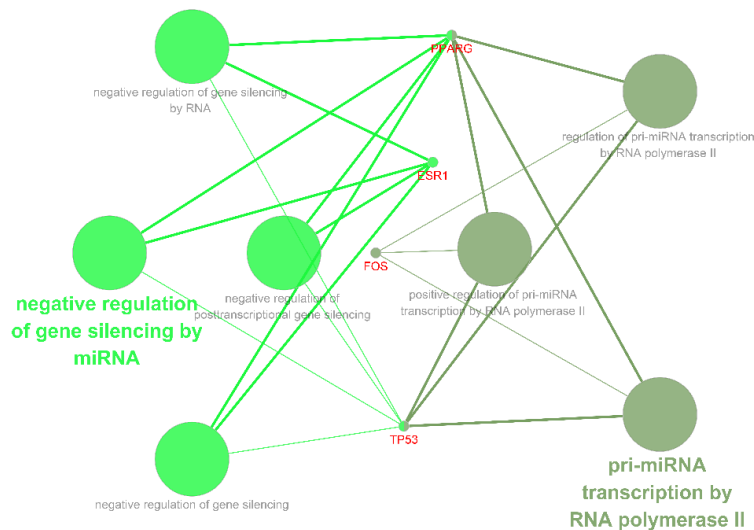


图4 核心基因的功能富集分析（红色字体的节点代表核心基因，绿色和灰色的节点表示核心基因参与的生物学过程）
Figure 4 Enrichment analysis of the hub genes (the red nodes standing for the hub genes, and the green and grey nodes standing for the biological processes involving the hub genes)

2.4 验证核心基因在甲状腺癌中的表达

从 CRN 数据库中下载的数据显示，与癌旁正常组织相比，10 个核心基因在甲状腺癌组织中均呈低表达。本研究再通过 UALCAN 数据库验证这

10 个核心基因在甲状腺癌组织中的表达水平，结果显示除了 TP53 在甲状腺癌组织中呈高表达外，其余核心基因均在甲状腺癌组织中表达下调，差异有统计学意义（图 5），与从 CRN 数据库中下载

的数据资料保持一致。

2.5 核心基因在甲状腺癌中的生存分析

基于 GEPIA 数据库中甲状腺癌的生存数据,本研究对这 10 个核心基因进行了生存分析,以基因表达的均值作为截断值分为高表达组和低表达组,分析这 10 个核心基因对甲状腺癌患者无病生

存期及总生存期的影响(部分基因因为样本量太小无法进行生存分析),结果显示与 KIT 低表达组相比, KIT 高表达组患者的无病生存期明显延长($P=0.012$),但对总体生存期无影响($P=0.85$),这可能与甲状腺癌患者的整体预后较好有关(图 6)。

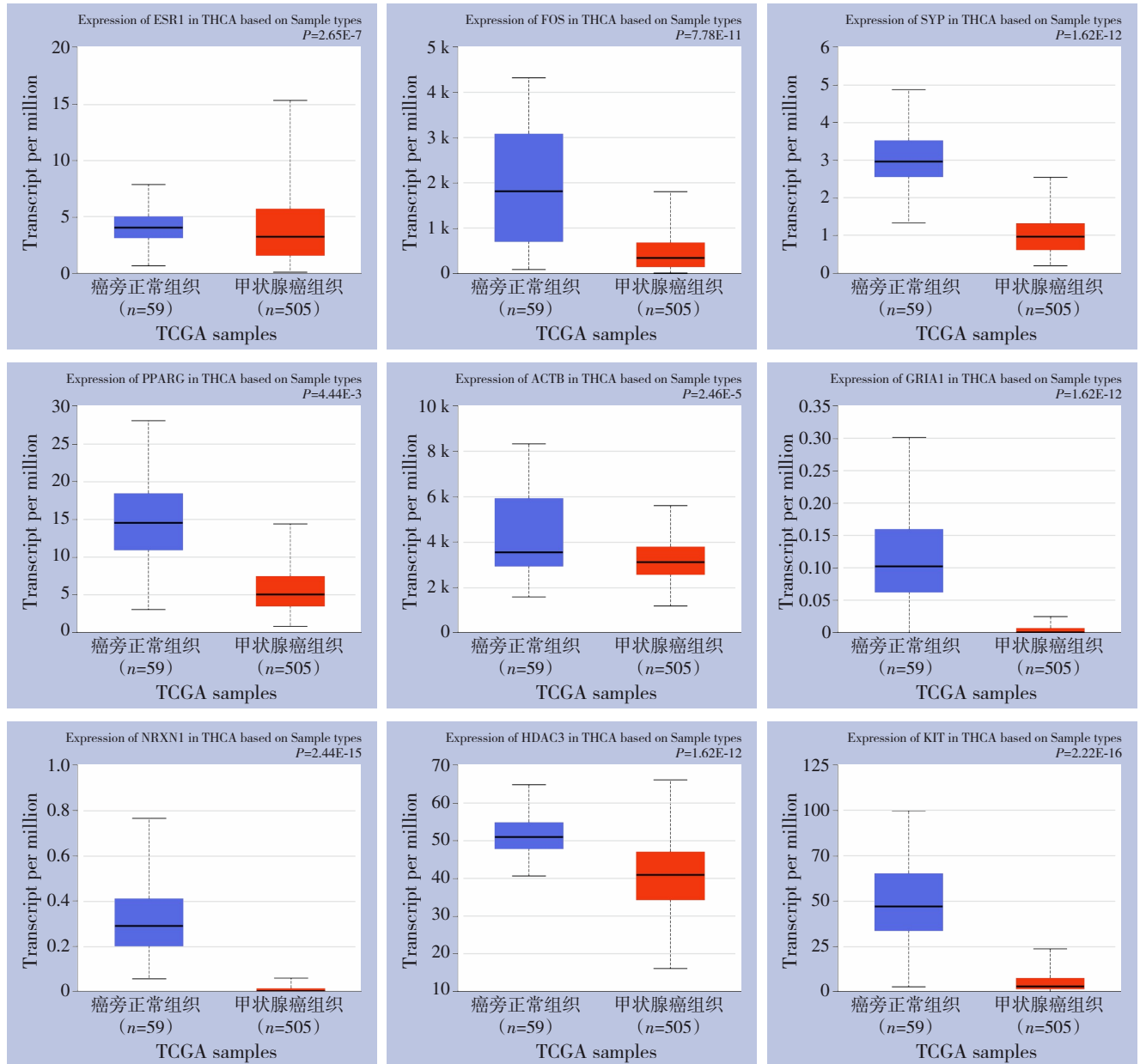


图 5 基于 UALCAN 数据库验证核心基因在甲状腺癌组织与癌旁正常组织中的表达水平 (蓝色箱型图代表癌旁正常组织, 红色箱型图代表甲状腺癌组织)

Figure 5 Verification of the hub genes in thyroid tissue and normal adjacent tissue based on the UALCAN database (the blue box diagram representing the normal paracancer tissue and the red box diagram representing the thyroid cancer tissue)

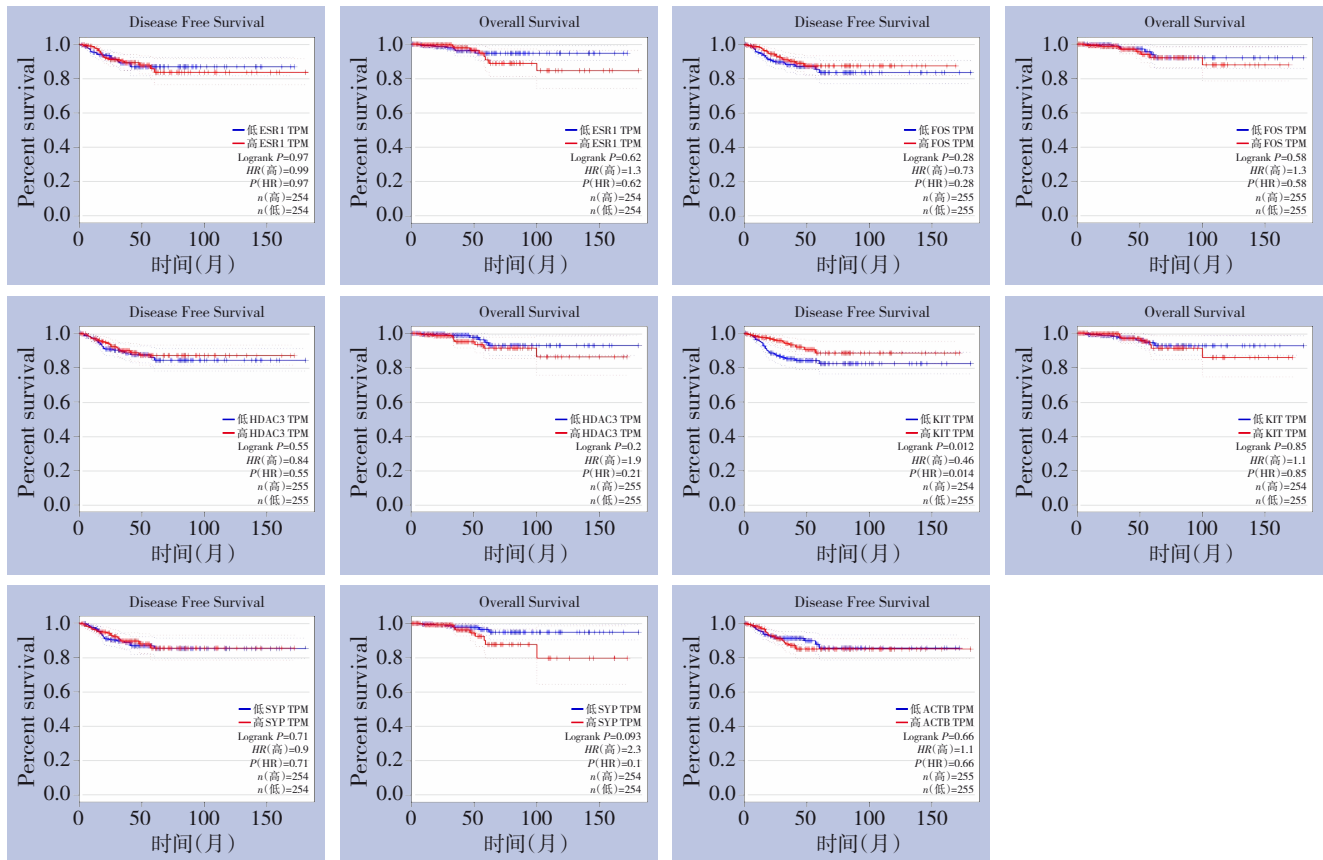


图6 核心基因的生存曲线(红色曲线代表高表达组,蓝色曲线代表低表达组)

Figure 6 survival curves of the hub genes (the red curve representing the high-expression group and the blue curve representing the low-expression group)

3 讨论

本研究基于公共数据库通过生物信息学方法筛选出KIT基因作为甲状腺癌的核心基因,CRN数据库和UALCAN数据库证实了KIT在甲状腺癌组织中呈低表达,GEPIA数据库中甲状腺癌的生存资料显示KIT的高表达与甲状腺癌患者的无病生存期明显相关,推测KIT基因可作为甲状腺癌的预后风险基因或治疗靶点。

KIT,也称为c-KIT,编码酪氨酸激酶受体(CD117),后者是III型酪氨酸激酶受体家族成员之一。KIT可通过丝裂原活化蛋白激酶(MAPK)、磷脂酰肌醇3-激酶(PI3K),Janus激酶(JAK)/信号转导和转录活化因子(STAT),SRC家族激酶(SFK)和磷脂酶C γ 等多条下游信号通路参与细胞增殖、凋亡、化学趋向和黏附^[21-22]。此外,KIT是一种诱变有效的原癌基因,以干细胞因子(SCF)为配体,通过破坏细胞生长调控导致肿瘤的发生^[23]。KIT在人类肿瘤中的确切作用仍不明了,但目前从

文献来看,差异主要取决于肿瘤类型。如KIT在小细胞肺癌、白血病、结肠癌和成神经细胞瘤中高表达或突变^[24-27];而在乳腺癌和黑色素瘤中表达缺失^[28-29]。关于KIT在甲状腺癌中的研究较少。

Mazzanti等^[30]在2004年通过基因芯片技术在数千个基因中筛选出KIT基因,发现与甲状腺良性结节相比,KIT在甲状腺癌组织中是表达下调最明显的蛋白编码基因之一。近来,有研究进一步证实了KIT在甲状腺正常组织和甲状腺癌组织中的表达,发现与甲状腺正常组织相比,KIT在甲状腺癌中表达下调^[31-32],与本研究结果相一致。Tomei和Franceschi等^[11,33]根据研究结果推测KIT与其配体的结合可以调控甲状腺滤泡上皮的分化和生长,KIT表达的缺失可能会导致甲状腺结节向恶性转化,并认为KIT可作为甲状腺细针穿刺细胞学诊断的分子标志物。更有一些研究报道了引起KIT在甲状腺癌中表达下调的作用机制,包括特异性microRNA(miR-146b、miR-221和miR-222)的表达失调、启动子高甲基化以及lncRNA的竞争性内源性学

说^[7, 29, 34]。目前,甲状腺细针穿刺细胞学检查仍然是术前评估甲状腺结节良恶性的最可靠、经济、安全的检查手段,有助于减少不必要的外科手术^[35-37]。众所周知,BRAF V600E是甲状腺乳头状癌中广泛应用的分子标志物之一,检测 BRAF V600E有无突变可使术前检查准确率提高 20%~30%^[38]。但依然有部分患者的诊断具有不确定性,原因可能是该部分患者中不存在 BRAF V600E 突变,提示识别甲状腺癌中其他的分子标志物具有重要意义^[11]。Tomei 等^[11]研究发现在甲状腺细针穿刺细胞学样本中联合检测 BRAF V600E 突变和 KIT 表达,可使诊断准确率提高 15%。Panebianco 等^[35]研究报道了在甲状腺细针穿刺细胞学样本中联合检测 4 种分子标志物(KIT、TC1、miR-222、miR-146b)比单纯检测 BRAF V600E 突变更有助于恶性结节的诊断,推荐用于临床上无法诊断甲状腺结节良/恶性的病例中。由此可见,KIT 不仅可作为甲状腺癌的预后风险基因,检测其蛋白表达还有助于甲状腺结节的术前诊断。

综合本研究结果及文献资料,KIT 基因可被用于甲状腺癌诊断的分子标志物、治疗靶点及预后风险评估。

参考文献

- [1] Jemal A, Bray F, Center MM, et al. Global cancer statistics[J]. *CA Cancer J Clin*, 2011, 61(2):69-90. doi: 10.3322/caac.20107.
- [2] Howlader N, Noone AM, Krapcho M, et al. SEER cancer statistics review 1975-2009 (Vintage 2009 Populations) National Cancer Institute. 2012[EB]. Available at: https://seer.cancer.gov/csr/1975_2009_pops09/results_merged/sect_04_breast.pdf.
- [3] Pellegriti G, Frasca F, Regalbuto C, et al. Worldwide increasing incidence of thyroid cancer: update on epidemiology and risk factors[J]. *J Cancer Epidemiol*, 2013, 2013:965212. doi: 10.1155/2013/965212.
- [4] Morris LG, Sikora AG, Tosteson TD, et al. The increasing incidence of thyroid cancer: the influence of access to care[J]. *Thyroid*, 2013, 23(7):885-891. doi: 10.1089/thy.2013.0045.
- [5] No authors listed]. Erratum: Global cancer statistics 2018: GLOBOCAN estimates of incidence and mortality worldwide for 36 cancers in 185 countries[J]. *CA Cancer J Clin*, 2020, 70(4):313. doi: 10.3322/caac.21609.
- [6] Laha D, Nilubol N, Boufraqueh M. New Therapies for Advanced Thyroid Cancer[J]. *Front Endocrinol (Lausanne)*, 2020, 11:82. doi: 10.3389/fendo.2020.00082.
- [7] Liao B, Liu S, Liu J, et al. Long Noncoding RNA CTC Inhibits Proliferation and Invasion by Targeting miR-146 to Regulate KIT in Papillary Thyroid Carcinoma[J]. *Sci Rep*, 2020, 10(1):4616. doi: 10.1038/s41598-020-61577-z.
- [8] Alexander EK. Approach to the patient with a cytologically indeterminate thyroid nodule[J]. *J Clin Endocrinol Metab*, 2008, 93(11):4175-4182. doi: 10.1210/jc.2008-1328.
- [9] Rabaglia JL, Kabbani W, Wallace L, et al. Effect of the Bethesda system for reporting thyroid cytopathology on thyroidectomy rates and malignancy risk in cytologically indeterminate lesions[J]. *Surgery*, 2010, 148(6):1267-1272. doi: 10.1016/j.surg.2010.09.017.
- [10] Sciacchitano S, Lavra L, Ulivieri A, et al. Comparative analysis of diagnostic performance, feasibility and cost of different test-methods for thyroid nodules with indeterminate cytology[J]. *Oncotarget*, 2017, 8(30): 49421-49442. doi: 10.18632/oncotarget.17220.
- [11] Tomei S, Mazzanti C, Marchetti I, et al. c-KIT receptor expression is strictly associated with the biological behaviour of thyroid nodules[J]. *J Transl Med*, 2012, 10: 7. doi: 10.1186/1479-5876-10-7.
- [12] Li JR, Sun CH, Li W, et al. Cancer RNA-Seq Nexus: a database of phenotype-specific transcriptome profiling in cancer cells[J]. *Nucleic Acids Res*, 2016, 44(D1): D944-951. doi: 10.1093/nar/gkv1282.
- [13] Zhang Z, Luo A, Zeng Z, et al. Identification of hub genes and functional modules in colon adenocarcinoma based on public databases by bioinformatics analysis[J]. *J Gastrointest Oncol*, 2021, 12(4):1613-1624. doi: 10.21037/jgo-21-415.
- [14] Huang da W, Sherman BT, Lempicki RA. Systematic and integrative analysis of large gene lists using DAVID bioinformatics resources[J]. *Nat Protoc*, 2009, 4(1): 44-57. doi: 10.1038/nprot.2008.211.
- [15] Szklarczyk D, Gable AL, Lyon D, et al. STRING v11: protein-protein association networks with increased coverage, supporting functional discovery in genome-wide experimental datasets[J]. *Nucleic Acids Res*, 2019, 47(D1): D607-613. doi: 10.1093/nar/gky1131.
- [16] Shannon P, Markiel A, Ozier O, et al. Cytoscape: a software environment for integrated models of biomolecular interaction networks[J]. *Genome Res*, 2003, 13(11):2498-2504. doi: 10.1101/gr.1239303.
- [17] Bindea G, Mlecnik B, Hackl H, et al. ClueGO: a Cytoscape plug-in to decipher functionally grouped gene ontology and pathway annotation networks[J]. *Bioinformatics*, 2009, 25(8): 1091-1093. doi: 10.1093/bioinformatics/btp101.
- [18] Chin CH, Chen SH, Wu HH, et al. cytoHubba: identifying hub objects and sub-networks from complex interactome[J]. *BMC Syst*

- Biol, 2014, 8(Suppl 4):S11. doi: 10.1186/1752-0509-8-S4-S11.
- [19] Chandrashekar DS, Bashel B, Balasubramanya SAH, et al. UALCAN: A Portal for Facilitating Tumor Subgroup Gene Expression and Survival Analyses[J]. *Neoplasia*, 2017, 19(8):649-658. doi: 10.1016/j.neo.2017.05.002.
- [20] Tang Z, Li C, Kang B, et al. GEPIA: a web server for cancer and normal gene expression profiling and interactive analyses[J]. *Nucleic Acids Res*, 2017, 45(W1): W98-102. doi: 10.1093/nar/gkx247.
- [21] Sanlorenzo M, Vujic I, Posch C, et al. Oncogenic KIT mutations in different exons lead to specific changes in melanocyte phosphoproteome[J]. *J Proteomics*, 2016, 144: 140-147. doi: 10.1016/j.jprot.2016.05.019.
- [22] Rizzo FM, Palmirotta R, Marzullo A, et al. Parallelism of DOG1 expression with recurrence risk in gastrointestinal stromal tumors bearing KIT or PDGFRA mutations[J]. *BMC Cancer*, 2016, 16: 87. doi: 10.1186/s12885-016-2111-x.
- [23] Sehitoglu I, Bedir R, Cure E, et al. Evaluation of the relationship between c-Kit expression and mean platelet volume in classic Kaposi's sarcoma[J]. *An Bras Dermatol*, 2016, 91(4):430-435. doi: 10.1590/abd1806-4841.20164331.
- [24] Matsumura Y, Umemura S, Ishii G, et al. Expression profiling of receptor tyrosine kinases in high-grade neuroendocrine carcinoma of the lung: a comparative analysis with adenocarcinoma and squamous cell carcinoma[J]. *J Cancer Res Clin Oncol*, 2015, 141(12):2159-2170. doi: 10.1007/s00432-015-1989-z.
- [25] Yu G, Yin C, Jiang L, et al. Amyloid precursor protein cooperates with c-KIT mutation/overexpression to regulate cell apoptosis in AML1-ETO-positive leukemia via the PI3K/AKT signaling pathway[J]. *Oncol Rep*, 2016, 36(3): 1626-1632. doi: 10.3892/or.2016.4963.
- [26] Chen EC, Karl TA, Kalisky T, et al. KIT Signaling Promotes Growth of Colon Xenograft Tumors in Mice and Is Up-Regulated in a Subset of Human Colon Cancers[J]. *Gastroenterology*, 2015, 149(3):705-717. doi: 10.1053/j.gastro.2015.05.042.
- [27] Lau ST, Hansford LM, Chan WK, et al. Prokineticin signaling is required for the maintenance of a de novo population of c-KIT(+) cells to sustain neuroblastoma progression[J]. *Oncogene*, 2015, 34(8):1019-1034. doi: 10.1038/onc.2014.24.
- [28] Tramm T, Kim JY, Leibl S, et al. Expression of C-KIT, CD24, CD44s, and COX2 in benign and non-invasive apocrine lesions of the breast[J]. *Virchows Arch*, 2016, 469(3):285-295. doi: 10.1007/s00428-016-1966-1.
- [29] Dahl C, Abildgaard C, Riber-Hansen R, et al. KIT is a frequent target for epigenetic silencing in cutaneous melanoma[J]. *J Invest Dermatol*, 2015, 135(2):516-524. doi: 10.1038/jid.2014.372.
- [30] Mazzanti C, Zeiger MA, Costouros NG, et al. Using gene expression profiling to differentiate benign versus malignant thyroid tumors[J]. *Cancer Res*, 2004, 64(8): 2898-2903. doi: 10.1158/0008-5472.can-03-3811.
- [31] Pusztaszeri MP, Sadow PM, Faquin WC. CD117: a novel ancillary marker for papillary thyroid carcinoma in fine-needle aspiration biopsies[J]. *Cancer Cytopathol*, 2014, 122(8): 596-603. doi: 10.1002/cncy.21437.
- [32] Chitikova Z, Pusztaszeri M, Makhlof AM, et al. Identification of new biomarkers for human papillary thyroid carcinoma employing NanoString analysis[J]. *Oncotarget*, 2015, 6(13):10978-10993. doi: 10.18632/oncotarget.3452.
- [33] Franceschi S, Lessi F, Panebianco F, et al. Loss of c-KIT expression in thyroid cancer cells[J]. *PLoS One*, 2017, 12(3): e0173913. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0173913.
- [34] Fabbri M, Valeri N, Calin GA. MicroRNAs and genomic variations: from Proteus tricks to Prometheus gift[J]. *Carcinogenesis*, 2009, 30(6):912-917. doi: 10.1093/carcin/bgp063.
- [35] Panebianco F, Mazzanti C, Tomei S, et al. The combination of four molecular markers improves thyroid cancer cytologic diagnosis and patient management[J]. *BMC Cancer*, 2015, 15:918. doi: 10.1186/s12885-015-1917-2.
- [36] Rago T, Scutari M, Latrofa F, et al. The large majority of 1520 patients with indeterminate thyroid nodule at cytology have a favorable outcome, and a clinical risk score has a high negative predictive value for a more cumbersome cancer disease[J]. *J Clin Endocrinol Metab*, 2014, 99(10):3700-3707. doi: 10.1210/jc.2013-4401.
- [37] Kwon H, Kim WG, Eszlinger M, et al. Molecular Diagnosis Using Residual Liquid-Based Cytology Materials for Patients with Nondiagnostic or Indeterminate Thyroid Nodules[J]. *Endocrinol Metab (Seoul)*, 2016, 31(4): 586-591. doi: 10.3803/EnM.2016.31.4.586.
- [38] Marchetti I, Iervasi G, Mazzanti CM, et al. Detection of the BRAF (V600E) mutation in fine needle aspiration cytology of thyroid papillary microcarcinoma cells selected by manual macrodissection: an easy tool to improve the preoperative diagnosis[J]. *Thyroid*, 2012, 22(3):292-298. doi: 10.1089/thy.2011.0107.

(本文编辑 宋涛)

本文引用格式: 曾杰, 杨秋怡, 张志鹏, 等. 基于公共数据库的甲状腺癌预后风险基因筛选[J]. *中国普通外科杂志*, 2021, 30(11):1334-1342. doi:10.7659/j.issn.1005-6947.2021.11.009

Cite this article as: Zeng J, Yang QY, Zhang ZP, et al. Identification of prognostic risk genes for thyroid cancer based on public databases[J]. *Chin J Gen Surg*, 2021, 30(11):1334-1342. doi:10.7659/j.issn.1005-6947.2021.11.009