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· 基础研究 ·

## 基于生物信息学分析的结肠腺癌预后微小RNA的鉴定与预后预测模型构建

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### 摘要

**背景与目的:** 结肠腺癌 (COAD) 是癌症相关死亡的主要原因之一, 准确预测 COAD 患者预后, 评估 COAD 生存风险因素尤为重要。微小 RNA (miRNA) 通过靶向下游 mRNA 广泛参与肿瘤生物学行为调控, 已成为具有应用研究前景的标志物。本研究旨在通过生物信息学方法鉴定 COAD 预后 miRNA 并构建预后预测模型, 为 COAD 预后判断和制订个性化治疗方案提供参考。

**方法:** 从 TCGA 数据库中下载 COAD 患者的临床信息以及 miRNA-seq 数据, 获取差异的 miRNA。利用单变量和多变量 Cox 比例风险回归模型获得关键预后 miRNA, 用多因素 Cox 回归模型构建风险评分计算公式。利用 Kaplan-Meier 方法分析高、低风险评分患者的生存状态; ROC 曲线评估风险评分的敏感度及特异性, 并且从样本中随机抽取 50% 的病例做内部验证。采用预后风险模型列线图模型确定 COAD 患者临床病理参数及风险评分。使用 Targetscan 及 miRDB 数据库对预后 miRNA 模型进行靶基因预测以及利用 String 数据库进行蛋白与蛋白互作网络分析。

**结果:** 差异表达分析获得 320 个 miRNA, 其中 167 个上调, 153 个下调。利用单变量和多变量 Cox 比例风险回归对差异的 miRNA 进行分析, 发现 miR-503-5p、miR-335-3p、miR-185-5p、miR-4436b-5p、miR-125b-2-3p 为 COAD 患者关键预后 miRNA。结合风险评分的生存分析结果显示, 高风险评分患者预后明显差于低风险评分患者 ( $P=0.0056$ ), 在随机抽取的内部验证组中也得到验证 ( $P=0.014$ )。1、3、5 年风险评分模型 ROC 曲线下面积 (AUC) 分别为 0.666、0.724、0.707, 内部验证组分别为 0.681、0.699、0.703。Cox 回归分析显示, 建立用于预测 COAD 患者预后预测列线图的一致系数为 0.836。单因素和多因素 Cox 分析显示, 在建模组及内部验证组中风险评分是 COAD 的独立预后因素 (均  $P<0.01$ )。miRNA 靶基因预测获得 87 个靶基因。蛋白与蛋白互作网络分析获得 10 个蛋白质互作的关键基因。

**结论:** 所建立 COAD 预后 miRNA 模型以及基于年龄、AJCC 分期、T 分期、放疗化疗以及风险评分等因素构建的列线图将较准确地预测 COAD 的风险, 对鉴定高或低风险患者、精准预测预后及评估患者生存风险提供理论基础。

### 关键词

结肠肿瘤; 微RNAs; 比例危险度模型; 列线图

中图分类号: R735.3

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# Identification of prognostic microRNAs in colorectal adenocarcinoma and prognostic prediction model construction based on bioinformatics analysis

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## Abstract

**Background and Aims:** Colorectal adenocarcinoma (COAD) is one of the major causes of cancer-related mortality, and accurate prediction of prognosis and assessment of survival risk factors in COAD patients are particularly important. MicroRNAs (miRNAs) extensively participate in regulating tumor biology by targeting downstream mRNA and have become promising biomarkers for application research. This study aims to identify prognostic miRNAs for COAD through bioinformatics methods and to construct a prognostic prediction model, providing references for COAD prognosis determination and individualized treatment planning.

**Methods:** Clinical information and miRNA-seq data of COAD patients were downloaded from the TCGA database to obtain differentially expressed miRNAs. Key prognostic miRNAs were obtained through univariate and multivariate Cox proportional hazard regression models, and a risk score calculation formula was constructed using the multivariate Cox regression model. The Kaplan-Meier method was used to analyze the survival status of high- and low-risk patients, and the sensitivity and specificity of the risk score were evaluated using ROC curves. Internal validation was performed by randomly selecting 50% of cases from the sample. The prognostic risk nomogram model was used to determine the clinical and pathological parameters and risk scores of COAD patients using a column diagram model. The Targetscan and miRDB databases were used to predict target genes of the prognostic miRNA model, and the String database was used to analyze protein-protein interactions.

**Results:** Differential expression analysis identified 320 miRNAs, among which 167 were upregulated and 153 were downregulated. Univariate and multivariate Cox proportional hazards regression analysis of the differentially expressed miRNAs revealed miR-503-5p, miR-335-3p, miR-185-5p, miR-4436b-5p, and miR-125b-2-3p as key prognostic miRNAs for COAD patients. The survival analysis results, combined with risk score, showed that patients with high-risk scores had significantly worse prognosis than those with low-risk scores ( $P=0.0056$ ), which was also validated in a randomly selected internal validation group ( $P=0.014$ ). The area under the ROC curve of the 1-, 3-, and 5-year risk scoring models were 0.666, 0.724, and 0.707, respectively, while the values for the internal validation group were 0.681, 0.699, and 0.703, respectively. Cox regression analysis showed that the consistency coefficient for the predictive nomogram of COAD was 0.836. Univariate and multivariate Cox analysis showed that the risk score was an independent prognostic factor for COAD in the modeling group and the internal validation group (both  $P<0.01$ ). The miRNA target gene prediction revealed 87 target genes, while the protein-protein interaction network analysis identified 10 key genes involved in protein interactions.

**Conclusion:** The COAD prognostic miRNA model and the nomogram constructed based on factors such as age, AJCC stage, T stage, radiotherapy and chemotherapy, and risk score can accurately predict the risk of COAD, providing a theoretical basis for identifying high or low-risk patients, accurately

predicting prognosis, and assessing patient survival risk.

**Key words** Colonic Neoplasms; MicroRNAs; Proportional Hazards Models; Nomograms

**CLC number:** R735.3

结肠腺癌 (colon adenocarcinoma, COAD) 是结肠恶性肿瘤中最常见的组织学类型, 为第五大常见癌症, 是癌症相关死亡的主要原因。截至2020年, 全球结肠癌发病率为6.0% (1 148 515例), 病死率约为5.8% (576 858例), 呈逐年上升趋势<sup>[1-2]</sup>。微小RNA (microRNA, miRNA) 作为长度为20~23个核苷酸的非编码RNA, 通过与Argonaute蛋白质组装成miRNA诱导沉默复合体 (miRNA-induced silencing complex, miRISC), 以抑制互补mRNA靶标翻译以及加速靶标mRNA的降解来沉默基因表达<sup>[3]</sup>。miRNA具有体积小以及在各种生物样本 (如组织、血液和粪便) 中稳定表达的特性, 致使其成为最有前景、最有潜力的生物标准物<sup>[4]</sup>。已有研究表明, 血清miRNA检测对结肠癌<sup>[5-6]</sup>、前列腺癌<sup>[7-8]</sup>、肝细胞癌<sup>[9-10]</sup>以及宫颈癌<sup>[11-12]</sup>的诊断和预后价值中充当较有前景的生物标志物<sup>[13-14]</sup>。miRNA非侵袭性检测如尿液、宫颈刮片等, 因创伤小及异常表达早而在临床广泛研究。Aftab等<sup>[11]</sup>收集宫颈癌前期患者和癌症患者的配对尿液、血清、宫颈刮片和肿瘤组织标本, 选定3种促癌基因 (miR-21、miR-199a、miR-155-5p) 和3种抑癌基因 (miR-34a、miR-145、miR-218), 使用qRT-PCR分析其表达量, 确定miRNA可作为宫颈癌早期发现和预后的可靠的非侵入性生物标志物。miRNA通过神经鞘磷脂酶2依赖途径、3'端依赖途径以及苏莫酰化异质核糖核蛋白依赖途径整合入外泌体内, 从而转运至受体细胞内发挥生物学作用<sup>[15]</sup>。对103例非小细胞肺癌 (non-small cell lung cancer, NSCLC) 患者和60例健康对照的评估<sup>[16]</sup>显示, 血清外泌体miR-378在NSCLC患者中高度过表达, 并且这种过表达与淋巴结转移阳性和TNM晚期相关。Luo等<sup>[17]</sup>发现NSCLC患者血清外泌体miR-382表达较低的总生存率较低。因此, 血清外泌体miR-382似乎是评估NSCLC进展的可靠预后生物标志物。Janpipatkul等<sup>[18]</sup>证实, 10个外泌体miRNA在osimertinib耐药的NSCLC患者中显著失调。所有10个潜在的外泌体miRNA的上调与治疗失败的风险降低和生存率显著提高有关。其中, 4种外泌体miRNA (miR-323-3p、

miR-1468-3p、miR-5189-5p、miR-6513-5p) 有效增加, 有希望作为准确区分osimertinib耐药的预后生物标志物。对于miRNA如何影响肿瘤预后及转归的研究正不断更新。Zhao等<sup>[19]</sup>通过探讨miRNA模型和靶基因在食管癌患者中的免疫学作用验证其对食管癌患者的预后价值。尽管关于miRNA作为肿瘤诊断及预后生物标志物的研究很多, 但对于如何发挥作用的分子机制还需要进一步的研究并需要植入更多临床实践。

本研究旨在开发COAD miRNA生物标志物, 建立COAD预后miRNA模型以及基于年龄、美国癌症分期联合委员会 (American Joint Committee on Cancer, AJCC) 分期、T分期、放化疗以及风险评估等因素构建的列线图将较准确地预测COAD的风险, 对鉴定高或低风险患者、精准预测预后及评估患者生存风险提供理论基础。

## 1 材料与方法

### 1.1 数据来源

通过R (4.1.0) 软件的“TCGAbiolinks”包从癌症基因组图谱 (the cancer genome atlas, TCGA) 数据库 (<https://cancergenome.nih.gov>) 中获取COAD患者临床信息及miRNA表达数据, 该数据包括444个癌组织及8个癌旁正常组织样品。患者临床信息包括生存时间、生存状态、性别、年龄、TNM分期、T分期、N分期及放化疗信息等。筛选随访时间>30 d及临床信息不完整病例, 最终获得359例患者的临床病理信息。

### 1.2 研究方法

利用R (4.1.0) 软件的“limma”包设定差异基因筛选标准为: 校正 $P \leq 0.05$ 且 $|\log_2$ 倍数变化 $|\geq 2$ 进行差异分析, 获得的差异miRNA。对差异表达的miRNA进行单因素Cox风险回归分析, 获得与患者总体生存 (overall survival, OS) 时间相关的miRNA, 并进行Lasso回归分析, 获得与患者OS时间显著相关的miRNA。将以上miRNA纳入多因素Cox风险回归分析中, 并构建准确预测预后的风险

评分模型。使用风险评分中位值作为截断点，将其分为高风险组和低风险组。采用对数秩检验对该模型进行Kaplan-Meier分析。使用随时间变化的受试者操作特征(receiver operating curve, ROC)曲线，测量了1、3、5年OS时间的预后风险模型的预测性能。利用R(4.1.0)软件的“caret”包从359个COAD样本中，随机抽取180个样本，进行内部验证组。为了进一步验证miRNA风险评分能否预测COAD的患者预后，加入TNM分期、年龄、性别、T分期及N分期等临床参数进行单因素和多因素Cox风险回归分析。利用Cox回归分析构建COAD患者预后生存风险列线图。通过TargetScan(<https://www.targetscan.org>)及miRDB(<http://mirdb.org>)数据库分析miRNA靶基因(为了提高预测精度，选择了两个数据库中重叠的基因作为目标，并且设定权重 $\leq -0.40$ 及分值 $>85$ )。使用检索相

互基因的搜索工具String(<https://cn.string-db.org>)数据库获得目标基因的蛋白-蛋白互作(protein-protein interaction, PPI)信息，进一步使用Cytoscape软件对PPI网络进行可视化，使用CytosHubba插件通过EPC算法获得hub基因。

### 1.3 统计学处理

所有统计分析均使用R(4.1.0)([www.r-project.org](http://www.r-project.org))进行，所有结果均以 $P < 0.05$ 为差异具有统计学意义。

## 2 结果

### 2.1 COAD差异miRNA筛选

使用R(4.1.0)软件“limma”包分析444个癌和8个癌旁样本，获得的320个差异miRNA，其包括167个上调的miRNA和153个下调的miRNA(图1A-B)。

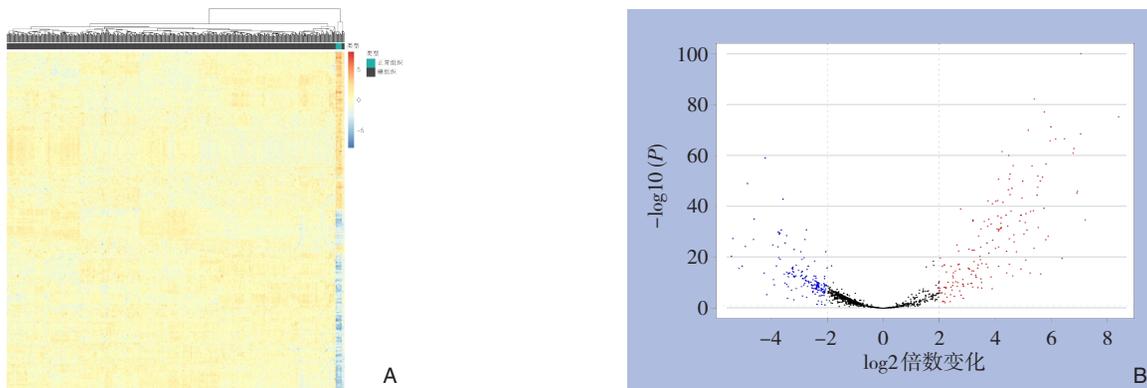


图1 差异表达的miRNAs A: 热图(癌和癌旁组织中差异表达的miRNA); B: 火山图(红点为上调的miRNAs; 蓝点为下调的miRNAs; 黑点为无差异miRNAs)

Figure 1 Differentially expressed miRNAs A: Heat map(miRNAs differentially expressed in cancer and adjacent tissues); B: Volcano plot(red dots representing upregulated miRNAs; blue dots representing downregulated miRNAs; black dots representing miRNAs with no significant difference)

### 2.2 与COAD预后相关的miRNA

单因素Cox风险回归分析，获得38个与患者OS时间相关的miRNA(均 $P < 0.05$ )。基于单因素Cox分析结果，对38个差异的Lasso回归分析，采用交叉验证法进行迭代分析，结果显示当变量数为19时，模型均方根误差最小，其对应的是 $\lambda = 0.018$ (图2A-B)，将以上miRNA纳入多因素Cox风险回归分析获得5个与预后明显相关的miRNA(miR-503-5p、miR-335-3p、miR-185-5p、miR-4436b-5p、miR-125b-2-3p)(均 $P < 0.05$ )。上述miRNA均为高危型与患者的预后呈负相关(表1)。

### 2.3 miRNA风险评分模型的构建与验证

利用5个miRNA的表达量创建与OS时间相关风险评分公式：风险评分 =  $(0.497) \times \text{miR-503-5p 表达值} + (0.620) \times \text{miR-335-3p 表达值} + (0.853) \times \text{miR-185-5p 表达值} + (0.792) \times \text{miR-4436b-5p 表达值} + (0.311) \times \text{miR-125b-2-3p 表达值}$ 。使用风险评分中位值作为截断点，将患者分为高风险组和低风险组。每例患者的风险评分，患者生存时间及生存状况及免疫基因表达的热图如图3A所示。高风险评分患者表达量较高，风险评分高，生存人数较低；低风险评分患者为相反结

果。生存分析结果显示,高风险组的患者预后明显差于低风险组 ( $P=0.0056$ ) (图3B)。ROC曲线结果显示风险评分在ROC曲线下面积 (area under curve, AUC) 在1、3、5年分别为0.666、0.724、0.707 (图3C)。

每例内部验证组患者的风险评分分布和生存时间、生存状况及免疫基因表达热图如图4A所示。生存分析结果显示,高危组患者较低危组患者预后差 ( $P=0.014$ ) (图4B)。风险评分AUC在1、3、5年时分别为0.681、0.699、0.703 (图4C)。

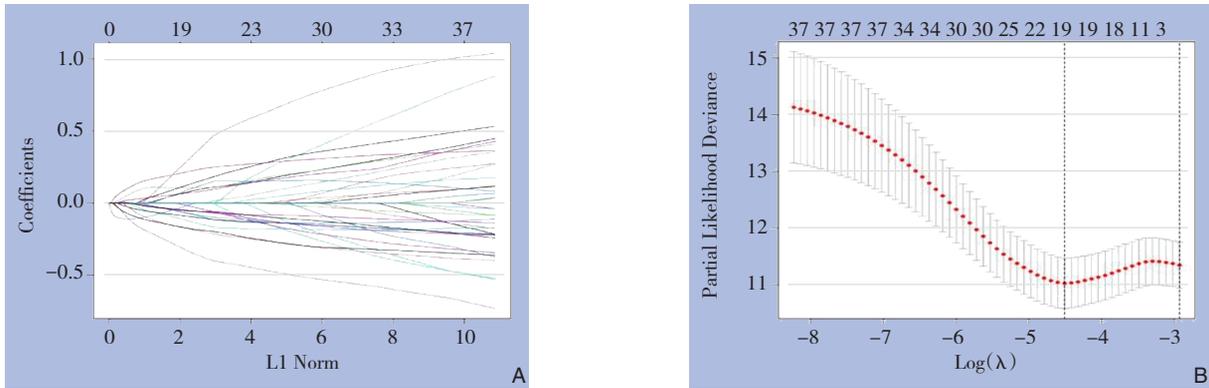


图2 Lasso回归分析 A: Lasso筛选变量动态过程图; B: 交叉验证过程参数λ的筛选过程

Figure 2 Lasso regression analysis A: Dynamic process diagram of Lasso variable selection; B: Selection process of cross-validation process parameter λ

表1 多因素Cox回归模型与COAD患者OS时间相关的miRNA

Table 1 Multivariate Cox regression model of miRNAs related to the OS time of COAD patients

ID	coef	HR(95% CI)	P
hsa-miR-503-5p	0.497	1.643(1.242~2.173)	0.001
hsa-miR-335-3p	0.620	1.858(1.163~2.970)	0.010
hsa-miR-185-5p	0.853	2.345(1.195~4.602)	0.013
hsa-miR-4436b-5p	0.792	2.208(1.172~4.160)	0.014
hsa-miR-125b-2-3p	0.311	1.365(1.015~1.837)	0.040

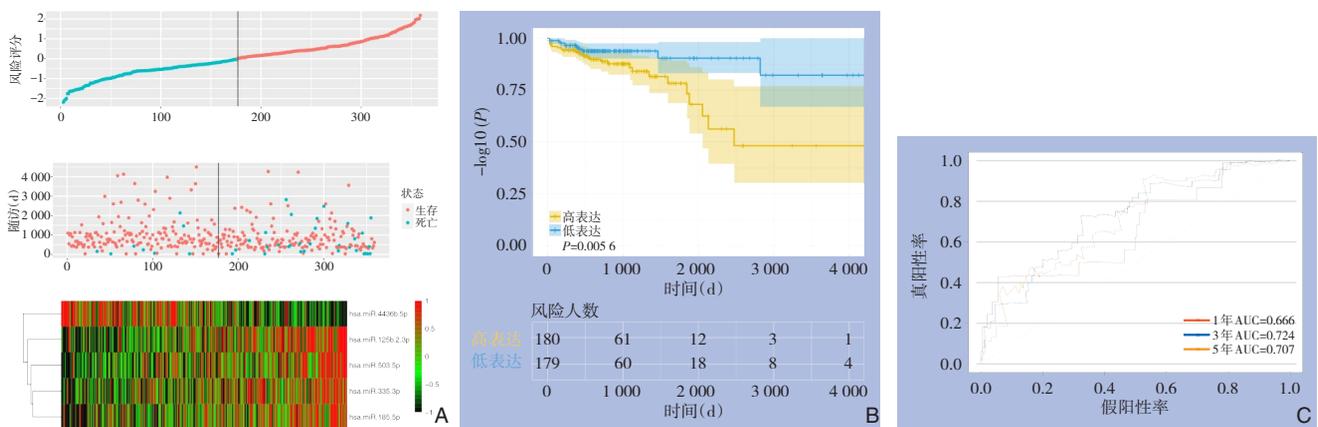
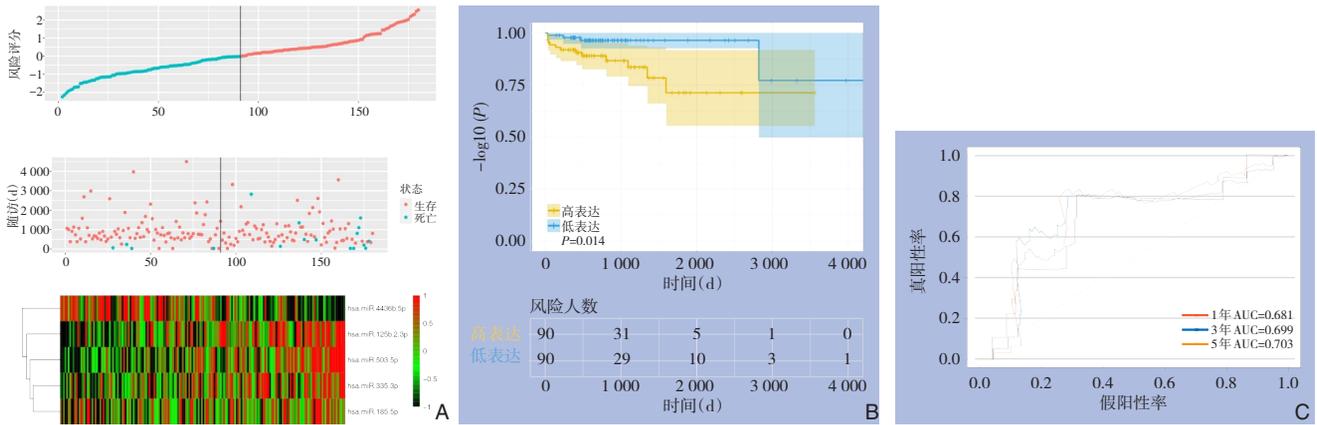


图3 高风险评分与低风险评分COAD患者预后风险模型 A: 高风险(红色)和低风险(蓝色)患者风险评分分布、生存状态(蓝色表示存活患者;红色代表死亡患者)及miRNA表达的热图(红色代表免疫基因高表达;黑色代表免疫基因低表达); B: 高风险评分与低风险评分患者生存曲线(黄色代表高风险评分患者;蓝色代表低风险评分患者); C: miRNA预后模型时间依赖性ROC曲线显示患者1、3、5年OS时间的AUC

Figure 3 Prognostic risk model high-risk and low-risk score COAD patients A: Distribution of risk scores (red representing high-risk patients, blue representing low-risk patients), survival status (blue representing surviving patients, and red representing deceased patients), and heatmap of miRNA expression (red representing high expression of immune genes, black represents low expression of immune genes); B: Survival curves for high-risk and low-risk score patients (yellow representing high-risk score patients, blue representing low-risk score patients); C: Time-dependent ROC curve of the miRNA prognostic model showing the AUC values for 1-, 3-, and 5-year OS



**图 4 内部验证高风险评分与低风险评分 COAD 患者预后风险模型** A: 高风险 (红色) 和低风险 (蓝色) 患者风险评分分布、生存状态 (蓝色表示存活患者; 红色代表死亡患者) 及 miRNA 表达的热图 (红色代表免疫基因高表达; 黑色代表免疫基因低表达); B: 高风险评分与低风险评分患者生存曲线 (黄色代表高风险评分患者; 蓝色代表低风险评分患者); C: miRNA 预后模型时间依赖性 ROC 曲线显示患者 1、3、5 年 OS 时间的 AUC

**Figure 4 Internal validation of the prognostic risk model for high-risk and low-risk COAD patients** A: Distribution of risk scores (red representing high-risk patients, blue representing low-risk patients), survival status (blue representing surviving patients, and red representing deceased patients), and heatmap of miRNA expression (red representing high expression of immune genes, black represents low expression of immune genes); B: Survival curves for high-risk and low-risk score patients (yellow representing high-risk score patients, blue representing low-risk score patients); C: Time-dependent ROC curve of the miRNA prognostic model showing the AUC values for 1-, 3-, and 5-year OS

**2.4 风险评分与临床病理特征的相关性**

单因素及多因素 Cox 回归分析结果显示, 年龄、TNM 分期及风险评分与患者 OS 率明显相关 (均  $P < 0.05$ ), 即风险评分是 COAD 的独立预后指标 (表 2)。

**2.5 COAD 预后预测列线图**

列线图结果图 5 所示, 一致系数实际值为 0.836, 采用 Bootstrap 内部检验 1 000 次, 得到的一致系数预测值为 0.801, 表明该模型有良好的拟合度。

**2.6 PPI 网络分析**

分析结果表明, 钙调蛋白 1 (calmodulin1, CALM1), 蛋白质磷酸酶 2 催化亚基  $\alpha$  (protein

phosphatase 2 catalytic subunit  $\alpha$ , PPP2CA), 细胞分裂周期 42 (cell division cycle 42, CDC42), Akt 丝氨酸/苏氨酸激酶 3 (Akt serine/threonine kinase 3, Akt3), 异质核核糖核蛋白 H1 (heterogeneous nuclear ribonucleoprotein H1, HNRNPH1), 圆盘大 Maguk 脚手架蛋白 2 (discs large MAGUK scaffold protein 2, DLG2), 相关联的细胞分裂周期 4 (cell division cycle associated 4, CDCA4), 肌动蛋白相关蛋白 3 (actin related protein 3, ACTR3), ADP 核糖基化因子如 GTP 酶 2 (ADP ribosylation factor like GTPase 2, ARL2), 细胞周期蛋白 2 (cyclin D2, CCND2) 等 10 个基因为蛋白质互作的关键基因 (图 6)。

**表 2 COAD 患者 OS 的单因素和多因素 Cox 回归分析**

**Table 2 Univariate and multivariate Cox regression analysis of OS in COAD patients**

变量	单因素		多因素	
	HR(95% CI)	P	HR(95% CI)	P
年龄	1.043(1.013~1.075)	0.005	1.058(1.024~1.093)	0.000 6
性别	0.657(0.796~2.911)	0.204	0.808(0.405~1.613)	0.546
T分期	8.996(1.231~65.76)	0.030	5.287(0.703~39.790)	0.106
N分期	2.234(1.186~4.208)	0.013	0.169(0.020~1.407)	0.100 1
TNM分期	2.298(1.184~4.461)	0.014	14.405(1.636~126.838)	0.016
风险评分	1 510(71.39~3 194)	2.59e-06	1.721(1.281~2.312)	0.000 3

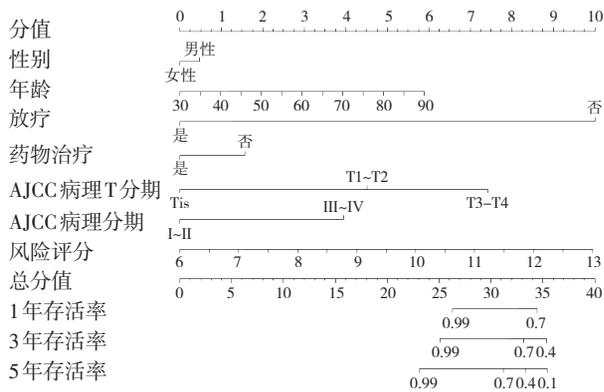


图5 COAD患者OS时间列线图

Figure 5 Nomogram of OS time in COAD patients

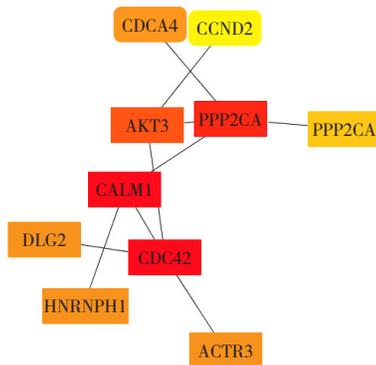


图6 miRNA模型的PPI网络图

Figure 6 PPI network diagram of miRNAs model

### 3 讨论

本研究通过生物信息学方法,分析COAD和癌旁样本芯片数据,获得差异表达的320个miRNA,基于差异基因的表达数据及临床数据,利用单因素和多因素Cox比例风险回归模型,鉴定出5个与患者OS高度相关的miRNA(miR-503-5p、miR-335-3p、miR-185-5p、miR-4436b-5p、miR-125b-2-3p),并建立miRNA预后风险模型。miRNA预后风险模型在COAD癌组织及癌旁正常组织中差异表达将有利于COAD的诊断及筛选。Kakan等<sup>[20]</sup>研究发现,miR-503-5p在Sjögren综合征的小鼠模型高表达,并在Sjögren综合征患者中初步验证,使得其可能成为潜在的诊断生物标志物。而Hildebrandt等<sup>[21]</sup>研究发现,miR-335-3p在内的多个miRNA在动脉粥样硬化患者的细胞外囊泡的血清样品中高表达,可作为动脉粥样硬化的生物标志物候选者。此外,乳腺癌<sup>[22]</sup>、致心律失常性右室心肌病<sup>[23]</sup>患者血清样本中miR-185-5p高表达、肝细胞癌<sup>[24]</sup>组织样本中miR-125b-2-3p低表达以及克里米亚刚果出血热<sup>[25]</sup>轻

症患者中miR-4436b-5p低表达等研究均表明miRNA具有充当生物标志物的作用,对疾病的诊断和筛选具有重要意义。尽管miRNA模型相关分子在多种肿瘤及非肿瘤疾病差异表达,充当生物标志物作用,但单个或miRNA预后风险模型在COAD的充当生物标志物的研究较少,因此具有一定的研究意义。

本研究建立的miRNA预后风险模型具有良好的预测预后性能,并且5个miRNA分子均为高危型与患者的预后呈负相关。它不仅体现在实验组及训练组中高低风险患者生存状态具有明显的差异,即高风险患者风险评分及表达量较高,生存人数少,低风险患者则相反,还表现在随时间变化ROC曲线及生存分析曲线研究中,AUC均>0.6,具有较高的敏感度及特异度,并且高风险患者较低风险患者生存时间更短,具有预测预后的价值。此外,本研究还进一步利用单因素及多因素Cox回归分析风险评分和患者临床特征对预后的价值,结果表明风险评分与患者预后相关,列线图模型也进一步证实。因此,我们有理由相信miRNA预后风险模型具有评估患者临床进展及预后能力以及成为评估是否将患者加入早期诊断治疗和个体化治疗的指标。

众所周知,miRNA通过靶向下游mRNA发挥生物学,当靶向致癌途径中的负调控因子时具有致癌性,而靶向癌基因时发挥抑癌作用<sup>[26]</sup>。已有研究<sup>[27-29]</sup>表明miR-503-5p在多种肿瘤中发挥作用。一方面,miR-503-5p通过直接下调血管内皮生长因子A(vascular endothelial growth factor A, VEGF-A)抑制结肠癌肿瘤发生、血管生成和淋巴管生成,发挥抑癌作用<sup>[30]</sup>。另一方面,miRNA-503-5p通过CD97介导的Janus激酶2(janus kinase 2, JAK2)/信号传感器和转录激活器3(signal transducer and activator of transcription 3, STAT3)通路抑制转移性或紫杉醇抗性卵巢癌<sup>[31]</sup>。miR-335-5P通过靶向丝裂原激活蛋白激酶10(mitogen-activated protein kinase 10, MAPK10)抑制胃癌进展<sup>[32]</sup>,靶向OCT4/Akt途径来抑制Huh-7肝癌细胞的增殖<sup>[33]</sup>,在胃癌及肝癌中发挥抑癌基因的作用。miR-185-5p通过靶向RAB35基因,以调节肿瘤细胞衍生的外泌体介导的增殖,迁移和侵袭,在NSCLC细胞中发挥促癌作用<sup>[34]</sup>。Baldi等<sup>[35]</sup>研究发现,miR-185通过靶向富有的互动域1A(AT-rich interaction domain 1A, ARID1a)导致COAD患者不良预后。miR-125b-2-3p

位于21q21.1, 是从茎环 pre-miRNA miR-125b-2上切割下来, 在多种肿瘤中发挥作用。在透明细胞肾细胞癌中, miR-125b-2-3p通过靶向EGR1促进肿瘤转移<sup>[36]</sup>。在结肠癌中, LNCRNA XIST/MIR-125B-2-3P轴通过靶向WEE1 G2检查点激酶(WEE1 G2 checkpoint kinase, WEE1)调节细胞增殖和化疗敏感性<sup>[37]</sup>。关于miR-4436b-5p在肿瘤中的作用, 尚未有文献报道。以上研究表明预后风险模型的miRNA分子通过靶向多种mRNA分子, 发挥促癌及抑癌作用。本研究通过TargetScan及miRDB数据库预测了miRNA的靶基因, 并通过PPI网络分析预测了CALM1、PPP2CA、CDC42、AKT3、HNRNP1、DLG2、CDCA4、ACTR3、ARL2、CCND2等10个基因为关键基因。而关于miRNA与以上靶标的研究尚未有文献报道, 需待更多的实验性研究进一步证实。

综上所述, 本研究通过生物信息学方法, 确定了miR-503-5p、miR-335-3p、miR-185-5p、miR-4436b-5p、miR-125b-2-3p 5个miRNA在COAD中高表达, 并构建了以上分子的预后风险模型。此外, 本研究发现5个miRNA分子均为高危型与患者的预后呈负相关, 具有较好的预测预后的价值。本研究不足之处在于较多的实验研究围绕在线数据展开, 未来需要收集更多的临床数据加以验证。本研究将为COAD诊断和筛查、评估患者临床进展、预后能力以及成为评估是否将患者加入早期诊断治疗和个体化治疗的指标提供了新的思路及理论依据。

利益冲突: 所有作者均声明不存在利益冲突。

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