

同期肝癌射频消融联合Hassab手术 对肝细胞癌合并门静脉高压患者 细胞免疫功能的影响

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摘要: **目的** 探讨同期肝癌射频消融(radiofrequency ablation, RFA)联合Hassab手术对肝细胞癌(hepatocellular carcinoma, HCC)合并门静脉高压患者细胞免疫功能的影响。**方法** 选择2018年1月至2019年6月就诊于首都医科大学附属北京地坛医院的47例HCC合并肝硬化门静脉高压的患者为研究对象。按照不同手术方式分为试验组(28例)和对照组(19例), 试验组采用肝癌RFA联合Hassab术, 对照组采用肝癌切除联合Hassab术。分别留取患者术前、术后3 d、术后4周外周血。采用流式细胞术检测外周血T细胞亚群(CD4⁺、CD8⁺、CD4⁺/CD8⁺), 采用酶联免疫吸附实验测定外周血Th1细胞因子和Th2细胞因子, Th1细胞因子包括干扰素 γ (interferon γ , IFN γ)、白细胞介素(interleukin, IL)-2、肿瘤坏死因子 α (tumor necrosis factor- α , TNF- α), Th2细胞因子包括IL-4和IL-8。比较不同手术方式对患者细胞免疫功能的影响。**结果** 试验组和对照组患者术前CD4⁺ T细胞(中位数: 29.80% vs 29.50%)、CD8⁺ T细胞(中位数: 23.60% vs 24.30%)及CD4⁺/CD8⁺ T细胞(中位数: 1.30% vs 1.23%)比例差异均无统计学意义($P > 0.05$); 术后3 d和术后4周, 试验组患者CD4⁺ T细胞(术后3 d中位数: 26.55% vs 21.80%; 术后4周中位数: 34.95% vs 33.30%)和CD4⁺/CD8⁺ T细胞(术后3 d中位数: 1.22% vs 0.87%; 术后4周中位数: 1.46% vs 1.23%)比例均显著高于对照组, CD8⁺ T细胞比例(术后3 d中位数: 22.25% vs 25.50%; 术后4周中位数: 24.20% vs 26.50%)显著低于对照组, 差异均有统计学意义(P 均 < 0.05)。与术前相比, 试验组患者CD4⁺ T细胞、CD8⁺ T细胞比例于术后3 d显著下降, 术后4周外周血CD4⁺ T细胞、CD8⁺ T细胞及CD4⁺/CD8⁺ T细胞比例显著升高(P 均 < 0.05); 而对照组术后3 d CD4⁺ T细胞及CD4⁺/CD8⁺ T细胞比例同样先下降, 然后于术后4周显著升高(P 均 < 0.05)。对照组CD8⁺ T细胞术后无下降, 呈持续升高(中位数: 24.30% vs 25.50% vs 26.50%)。同对照组比较, 试验组患者各指标于术后3 d及术后4周皆有显著差异(P 均 < 0.05)。试验组和对照组患者术前Th1细胞因子即IFN- γ (中位数: 138.85 pg/ml vs 140.91 pg/ml)、IL-2(中位数: 36.57 pg/ml vs 36.17 pg/ml)和TNF- α (中位数: 367.74 pg/ml vs 352.08 pg/ml)水平差异无统计学意义(P 均 > 0.05), 术后4周, 试验组患者IFN- γ 和IL-2水平均显著高于对照组(P 均 < 0.05), TNF- α 水平差异无统计学意义($z = -0.607$, $P = 0.544$); 两组患者术后4周IL-2水平均较术前显著升高, 但IFN- γ 仅试验组显著升高(P 均 < 0.05), 两组患者手术前后TNF- α 水平差异均无统计学意义(P 均 > 0.05)。两组患者术前Th2细胞因子即IL-4(中位数: 91.31 pg/ml vs 90.75 pg/ml)和IL-8(中位数: 193.71 pg/ml vs 231.65 pg/ml)差异无统计学意义(P 均 > 0.05), 术后4周试验组均显著低于对照组(IL-4中位数: 40.01 pg/ml vs 46.64 pg/ml, IL-8中位数: 200.67 pg/ml vs 209.73 pg/ml; P 均 < 0.05)。与术前相比, 术后4周两组患者IL-4水平均显著降低, 试验组IL-8水平显著升高, 对照组显著降低(P 均 < 0.05)。**结论** 与肝切除联合Hassab手术相比, 肝癌RFA联合Hassab手术对HCC合并肝硬化门脉高压患者术后细胞免疫功能影响更小, 理论上减少了术后肿瘤复发转移的风险。该术式于术后4周可见机体细胞免疫功能显著上调。该术式为患者提供了一种创伤小、恢复快的治疗方式, 且为将来联合免疫相关的肿瘤预防和治疗提供了理论基础。

关键词: 肝细胞癌; 射频消融术; Hassab手术; 脾切除术; 细胞免疫

DOI: 10.3969/j.issn.1674-7380.2022.03.011

基金项目: 国家自然科学基金项目(31970566); 首都卫生发展科研专项项目(2018-1-2081)

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Effects of radiofrequency ablation of liver cancer combined with Hassab operation on the cellular immune function of patients with hepatocellular carcinoma and portal hypertension

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Abstract: Objective To investigate the effects of radiofrequency ablation (RFA) combined with Hassab operation on cellular immune function of patients with hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) and portal hypertension. **Methods** Total of 47 patients with hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) and portal hypertension in Beijing Ditan Hospital, Capital Medical University from January 2018 to June 2019 were selected. The patients were divided into experimental group (28 cases) and control group (19 cases) according to different methods of surgery. Patients in experimental group were given RFA combined with Hassab operation and patients in control group were given liver cancer resection combined with Hassab operation. The peripheral blood were collected before surgery, 3 d and 4 weeks after surgery, respectively. Peripheral T cell subsets ($CD4^+$, $CD8^+$, $CD4^+/CD8^+$) was detected by flow cytometry, Th1 cytokines and Th2 cytokines were detected by enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay. Th1 cytokines included interferon γ (IFN- γ), interleukin (IL)-2 and tumor necrosis factor- α (TNF- α), and Th2 cytokines included IL-4 and IL-8. The effects of different surgical methods on cellular immunity of the patient were compared. **Results** There were no significant differences of $CD4^+$ T cells (median: 29.80% vs 29.50%), $CD8^+$ T cells (median: 23.60% vs 24.30%) and $CD4^+/CD8^+$ T cells (median: 1.30% vs 1.23%) between patients in experimental group and control group before surgery (all $P > 0.05$). Three days and 4 weeks after operation, the proportion of $CD4^+$ T cells (3 d after operation, median: 26.55% vs 21.80%; 4 weeks after operation, median: 34.95% vs 33.30%) and $CD4^+/CD8^+$ T cells (3 d after operation, median: 1.22% vs 0.87%; 4 weeks after operation, median: 1.46% vs 1.23%) were significantly higher than those of control group, $CD8^+$ T cell (3 d after operation, median: 22.25% vs 25.50%; 4 weeks after operation, median: 24.20% vs 26.50%) was significantly lower than that of control group, the differences were all statistically significant (all $P < 0.05$). Compared with those before operation, the proportion of $CD4^+$ T cells and $CD8^+$ T cells of patients in experimental group decreased significantly 3 days after surgery, and the proportion of peripheral blood $CD4^+$ T cells, $CD8^+$ T cells and $CD4^+/CD8^+$ T cells increased significantly 4 weeks after surgery (all $P < 0.05$). The proportion of $CD4^+$ T cells and $CD4^+/CD8^+$ T cells of patients in control group also decreased 3 days after surgery, and increased significantly 4 weeks after surgery (all $P < 0.05$). In control group, $CD8^+$ T cells did not decrease after surgery and remained continuously elevated. Compared with those in control group, the above indexes of patients in experimental group were significantly different 3 days and 4 weeks after operation (all $P < 0.05$). There were no significant differences of Th1 cytokines including IFN- γ (median: 138.85 pg/ml vs 140.91 pg/ml), IL-2 (median: 36.57 pg/ml vs 36.17 pg/ml) and TNF- α (median: 367.74 pg/ml vs 352.08 pg/ml) between patients in experimental group and control group before surgery (all $P > 0.05$). At 4 weeks after surgery, both IFN- γ and IL-2 levels of patients in experimental group were significantly higher than those in control group (both $P < 0.05$), and there was no significant difference in TNF- α level ($z = -0.607$, $P = 0.544$). Compared with those before operation, the level of IL-2 increased significantly 4 weeks after surgery in both groups and IFN- γ increased only in experimental group (all $P < 0.05$). There was no significant difference in TNF- α level of patients in both groups before and after surgery, respectively (all $P > 0.05$). There were no significant differences of Th2 cytokines including IL-4 (median: 91.31 pg/ml vs 90.75 pg/ml) and IL-8 (median: 193.71 pg/ml vs 231.65 pg/ml) between patients in experimental group and control group before surgery (all $P > 0.05$). The above indexes of patients in experimental group were significantly lower those in control group (IL-4 median: 40.01 pg/ml vs 46.64 pg/ml; IL-8 median: 200.67 pg/ml vs 209.73 pg/ml; all $P < 0.05$). Compared with those before operation, IL-4 level reduced significantly in both groups at 4 weeks after surgery, IL-8 level increased significantly in experimental group and decreased significantly in control group (all $P < 0.05$). **Conclusions** RFA combined with Hassab operation can cause less impairment to the cellular immunity of patients with HCC

and portal hypertension than hepatectomy combined with Hassab operation, which can theoretically reduce the risk of tumor recurrence and metastasis. It can increase cellular immunity and enhance the anti-tumor ability 4 weeks after surgery. The surgery provides a new treatment with minimally invasive and healing faster for HCC patients with portal hypertension and it provides a theoretical basis for the prevention and treatment of tumors with immunotherapy in the future.

Key words: Hepatocellular carcinoma; Radiofrequency ablation; Hassab operation; Splenectomy; Cellular immunity

我国原发性肝癌患者多合并有肝硬化门静脉高压。既往门脉高压所导致的脾功能亢进及上消化道出血风险限制了这部分患者的治疗选择。在一定条件下同期肝癌切除联合脾切除及贲门周围血管离断术被证实是安全有效的^[1,2]；且随着微创治疗的发展，肿瘤射频消融(radiofrequency ablation, RFA)及腹腔镜技术在临床上广泛应用，大大提高了手术安全性，为患者提供了更多选择^[2,3]。前期研究表明对于肝硬化门静脉高压患者行脾切除术可改善其肝纤维化程度，并可引起有益的免疫改变，降低癌变风险^[4,5]。另外，肝癌RFA亦具有上调机体免疫功能的特点^[6]。因此我们设想肝癌合并门静脉高压患者同期行RFA及脾切除术同样可能产生抗肿瘤的细胞免疫功能上调作用，有益于降低术后肿瘤复发转移，从而提高患者术后远期生存率。本研究对同期RFA联合Hassab手术的肝细胞癌(hepatocellular carcinoma, HCC)患者体内细胞免疫功能相关指标进行动态检测，了解该手术对机体细胞免疫功能的影响，为进一步证实该术式的临床应用价值提供依据，也为今后联合免疫治疗提供前期研究基础。

1 资料与方法

1.1 研究对象 选择2018年1月至2019年6月就诊于首都医科大学附属北京地坛医院普外科的47例HCC合并门静脉高压患者为研究对象。纳入标准：①年龄27~65岁，皆为乙型肝炎肝硬化；②肝癌为首次发现，未接受任何针对肝癌的其他手术、放化疗、靶向及免疫等治疗；③肿瘤为单发，直径 ≤ 5 cm，术中活检病理回报为HCC；④肝功能Child-Pugh分级为A级或B级；⑤无严重心、肺、肾及代谢性疾病；⑥近期有上消化道出血史，或术前胃镜检查提示食管胃底静脉重度曲张，红/蓝色征阳性；⑦术前提示脾大、重度脾功能亢进。由超声科医生行术前评估可行经皮肝癌RFA的患者纳入试验组(28例)，拟行肝癌RFA联合Hassab术；对于位置表浅或靠近其他重要脏器或组织结构、术前评估行经皮肝癌RFA风险高，拟行肝癌切除联合Hassab术的患者为对照组(19例)。患者均签署知情同意书。本研究获得首都医科大学附属北京地坛医院伦理委员会批准，批号：京地伦科字(2017)第(050)-01号。

1.2 手术方式 超声引导下肝癌RFA由有经验的肝胆

外科医生和超声科医生协同完成。患者全身麻醉后，于超声定位下，首先采用一次性活检针，穿刺活检该肿瘤，并做病理分析。然后将射频电极针在超声实时定位引导下穿刺至肿瘤位置，可行多位点、多角度RFA治疗，做到射频范围完全覆盖肿瘤。术中射频机采用RITA1500X射频消融发生器(美国Angio Dynamics公司)。RFA完成后，取左侧肋缘下斜形切口行Hassab术。考虑该手术涉及多脏器，术中应尽力减少不必要创伤、缩短手术时间。因此行贲门周围血管离断时，通常根据术前患者门脉系统CT三维重建情况拟定个体化的手术方案，即对曲张程度并不显著的区域血管不予手术处理。常规术后1个月行胃镜检查，对仍残存重度曲张的食管胃底静脉行套扎或组织胶注射。

拟联合肝癌切除的患者，通常在Hassab术后行肝部分切除术。联合肝脏切除时切口可继续在原有Hassab术切口向右侧肋下延长，充分暴露手术视野。手术以尽量减少创伤为原则，通常选择局限性肝切除，切除前预置肝门阻断带，必要时行肝门阻断。即根据肿瘤位置设置预切除线，保证切缘距病灶 ≥ 1 cm。

1.3 组织标本的获取及检测 两组患者均于术前1 d、术后3 d、术后4周留取外周血，采用FACSCanto II流式细胞仪(美国BD公司)及荧光标记的单克隆抗体FITC anti-human CD4、APC anti-human CD8(美国BioLegend公司)测定CD4⁺ T淋巴细胞占总淋巴细胞比例、CD8⁺ T淋巴细胞占总淋巴细胞比例、CD4⁺/CD8⁺比例，采用酶联免疫吸附实验ELISA试剂盒(武汉基因美)测定外周血Th1细胞因子和Th2细胞因子，Th1细胞因子包括干扰素 γ (interferon γ , IFN γ)、白细胞介素(interleukin, IL)-2、肿瘤坏死因子 α (tumor necrosis factor- α , TNF- α)，Th2细胞因子包括IL-4和IL-8，检测步骤严格按照试剂盒说明书进行。使用Image J软件半定量评估免疫组织化学切片细胞染色程度以反映细胞因子含量。

1.4 统计学处理 采用SPSS 20.0统计软件进行数据处理。年龄、肿瘤最长径、白细胞、血红蛋白、凝血酶原活动度和总胆红素为正态分布的计量资料，以 $\bar{x} \pm s$ 表示，两组间比较采用独立样本 t 检验；甲胎蛋白、血小板、白蛋白、外周血T细胞亚群比例、

Th1细胞因子和Th2细胞因子为非正态分布的计量资料,以 $M(p_{25}, p_{75})$ 表示,两组间比较采用Mann-Whitney U 检验,组内数据比较采用多个相关样本的非参数检验(Friedman检验)。性别和Child-Pugh分级为计数资料,以例数或百分数表示,两组间比较性别采用连续校正 χ^2 检验,Child-Pugh分级采用Pearson χ^2 检验。以 $P < 0.05$ 为差异有统计学意义。

2 结果

2.1 一般资料 两组患者的性别、年龄、术前肝功能及Child-Pugh分级、血细胞、肿瘤大小等术前一般资料差异无统计学意义,见表1。

2.2 两组患者治疗前后外周血T细胞亚群的变化 如图1、图2及表2所示,两组患者术前 $CD4^+$ T细胞、 $CD8^+$ T细胞及 $CD4^+/CD8^+$ T细胞比例差异均无统计学意义($P > 0.05$);术后3 d和术后4周,试验组患者 $CD4^+$ T细胞和 $CD4^+/CD8^+$ T细胞比例均显著高于对照组, $CD8^+$ T细胞比例显著低于对照组,差异均有统计学意义(P 均 < 0.05)。与术前相比,试验组患者 $CD4^+$ T细胞、 $CD8^+$ T细胞比例于术后3 d显著下降,术后4周外周血 $CD4^+$ T细胞、 $CD8^+$ T细胞及 $CD4^+/CD8^+$ T细胞比例显著升高(P 均 < 0.05);而对照组术后3 d $CD4^+$ T细胞及 $CD4^+/CD8^+$ T细胞

表1 试验组和对照组 HCC 合并门静脉高压患者的一般资料

项目	试验组(28例)	对照组(19例)	统计量值	P值
男/女(例)	23/5	14/5	$\chi^2 = 0.110^*$	0.740
年龄($\bar{x} \pm s$, 岁)	46.43 \pm 9.05	47.84 \pm 8.83	$t = -0.530$	0.598
肿瘤最长径($\bar{x} \pm s$, cm)	2.71 \pm 1.15	2.29 \pm 0.86	$t = 1.361$	0.180
Child-Pugh分级(A级/B级, 例)	20/8	13/6	$\chi^2 = 0.049$	0.825
甲胎蛋白[$M(p_{25}, p_{75})$, $\mu\text{g/L}$]	6.95 (-11.71, 13.006)	7.00 (-125.16, 94.286)	$z = -0.152$	0.879
白细胞($\bar{x} \pm s$, $\times 10^9/\text{L}$)	2.23 \pm 0.84	2.29 \pm 0.98	$t = -0.533$	0.597
血红蛋白($\bar{x} \pm s$, g/L)	97.09 \pm 30.35	100.72 \pm 33.27	$t = -0.387$	0.701
血小板[$M(p_{25}, p_{75})$, $\times 10^9/\text{L}$]	46.70 (40.91, 55.60)	47.00 (41.89, 59.57)	$z = -1.020$	0.308
凝血酶原活动度($\bar{x} \pm s$, %)	68.16 \pm 10.91	70.93 \pm 9.22	$t = -0.908$	0.369
总胆红素($\bar{x} \pm s$, $\mu\text{mol/L}$)	20.30 \pm 10.55	23.49 \pm 13.09	$t = -0.923$	0.361
白蛋白[$M(p_{25}, p_{75})$, g/L]	33.45 (29.68, 35.04)	36.00 (31.28, 37.53)	$z = -0.608$	0.543

注: * 为连续校正 χ^2 值。

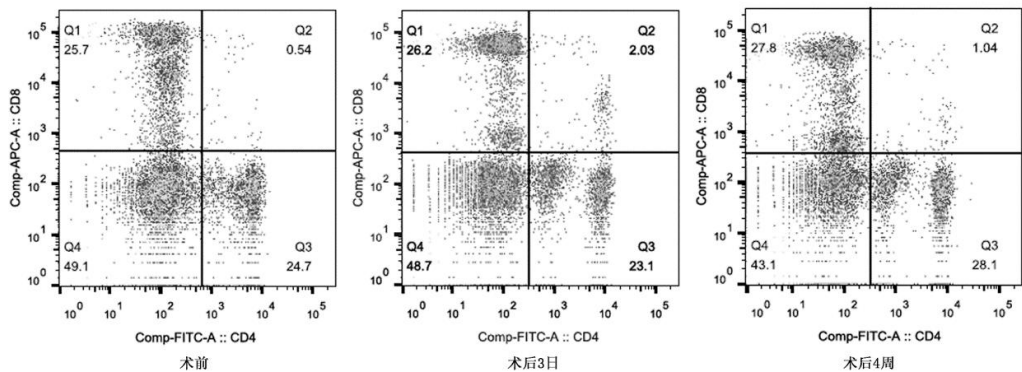


图1 HCC 合并门静脉高压患者术前、术后3 d及术后4周外周血T细胞亚群的流式细胞图

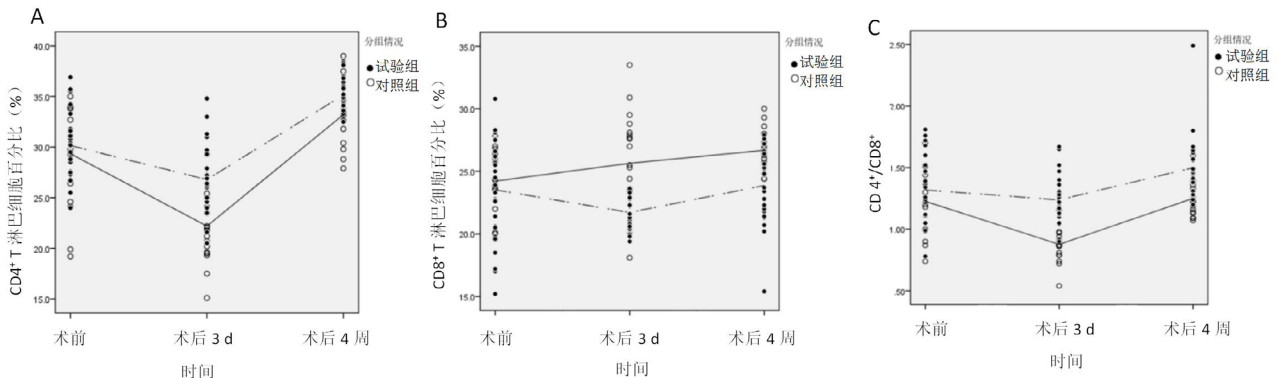


图2 试验组和对照组 HCC 合并门静脉高压患者术前、术后3 d及术后4周外周血T细胞亚群比例图

比例同样先下降, 然后于术后4周显著升高 (P 均 < 0.05)。不同的是对照组CD8⁺ T细胞术后无下降, 呈持续升高情况。同对照组比较, 试验组患者各指标于术后3 d及术后4周皆有显著差异 ($P < 0.05$)。

2.3 两组患者治疗前后外周血中细胞因子的变化 两组患者术前Th1细胞因子 (IFN- γ 、IL-2和TNF- α) 水平差异无统计学意义 (P 均 > 0.05), 术后4周, 试验组患者IFN- γ 和IL-2水平均显著高于对照组 (P 均 < 0.05), TNF- α 水平差异无统计学意义 ($z = -0.607$,

$P = 0.544$); 两组患者术后4周IL-2水平均较术前显著升高, 但IFN- γ 仅试验组明显升高 (P 均 < 0.05), 两组患者手术前后TNF- α 水平差异均无统计学意义 (P 均 > 0.05); 同样, 两组患者术前Th2细胞因子 (IL-4、IL-8) 差异无统计学意义 (P 均 > 0.05), 术后4周试验组均显著低于对照组 (P 均 < 0.05); 与术前相比, 术后4周两组患者IL-4水平均显著降低, 试验组IL-8水平显著升高, 对照组显著降低 (P 均 < 0.05)。见表3。

表2 试验组和对照组 HCC 合并门静脉高压患者术前、术后 3 d 及术后 4 周外周血 T 细胞亚群比例 [$M(p_{25}, p_{75})$]

组别	CD4 ⁺ T细胞 (%)										
	术前	术后3 d	术后4周	z值	P值	z ₁ 值	P ₁ 值	z ₂ 值	P ₂ 值	z ₃ 值	P ₃ 值
试验组	29.80 (28.93, 31.38)	26.55 (25.45, 28.14)	34.95 (34.54, 35.76)	35.429	< 0.001	0.571	0.033	-1.571	< 0.001	-1.000	< 0.001
对照组	29.50 (26.99, 31.71)	21.80 (20.52, 23.88)	33.30 (31.88, 34.53)	24.947	< 0.001	1.105	0.001	-1.579	< 0.001	-0.474	0.144
z值	-0.260	-3.719	-2.917								
P值	0.795	< 0.001	0.004								

组别	CD8 ⁺ T细胞 (%)										
	术前	术后3 d	术后4周	z值	P值	z ₁ 值	P ₁ 值	z ₂ 值	P ₂ 值	z ₃ 值	P ₃ 值
试验组	23.60 (22.00, 25.05)	22.25 (21.23, 22.20)	24.20 (22.77, 24.97)	7.786	0.020	0.607	0.023	-0.679	0.011	-0.071	0.789
对照组	24.30 (23.02, 25.41)	25.50 (23.75, 27.55)	26.50 (25.93, 27.44)	8.526	0.014	-0.474	0.144	-0.947	0.004	-0.474	0.144
z值	-0.510	-3.741	-3.437	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
P值	0.610	< 0.001	0.001	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

组别	CD4 ⁺ /CD8 ⁺										
	术前	术后3 d	术后4周	z值	P值	z ₁ 值	P ₁ 值	z ₂ 值	P ₂ 值	z ₃ 值	P ₃ 值
试验组	1.30 (1.12, 1.46)	1.22 (1.11, 1.35)	1.46 (1.32, 1.62)	21.020	< 0.001	0.357	0.181	-1.143	< 0.001	-0.786	0.003
对照组	1.23 (1.00, 1.39)	0.87 (0.79, 0.94)	1.23 (1.13, 1.36)	20.211	< 0.001	1.211	< 0.001	-1.316	< 0.001	-0.105	0.746
z值	-1.085	-5.097	-4.035	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
P值	0.278	< 0.001	< 0.001	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

注: z₁、P₁为术后3 d同术前比较, z₂、P₂为术后3 d同术后4周比较, z₃、P₃为术前同术后4周比较; “-”为无相关数据。

表3 实验组及对照组 HCC 合并脾功能亢进患者手术前后外周血中 Th1、Th2 细胞因子水平 [$M(p_{25}, p_{75})$, pg/ml]

组别	IFN- γ				IL-2			
	术前	术后4周	z值	P值	术前	术后4周	z值	P值
试验组	138.85 (127.18, 146.45)	153.47 (143.57, 165.50)	2.300	0.021	36.57 (35.27, 38.95)	50.08 (46.46, 50.67)	4.463	< 0.001
对照组	140.91 (118.85, 150.82)	137.33 (126.79, 150.07)	0.040	0.968	36.17 (33.53, 38.99)	42.83 (39.58, 47.37)	2.415	0.016
z值	-0.173	-1.799	-	-	-0.672	-2.124	-	-
P值	0.862	0.042	-	-	0.502	0.034	-	-

组别	TNF- α				IL-4			
	术前	术后4周	z值	P值	术前	术后4周	z值	P值
试验组	367.74 (332.17, 382.92)	367.05 (351.40, 390.22)	0.843	0.399	91.31 (85.53, 95.00)	40.01 (39.10, 42.73)	-4.623	< 0.001
对照组	352.08 (323.20, 385.47)	402.41 (338.72, 408.30)	0.684	0.494	90.75 (87.82, 96.42)	46.64 (43.80, 49.62)	3.823	< 0.001
z值	-0.585	-0.607	-	-	-0.477	-3.024	-	-
P值	0.558	0.544	-	-	0.633	0.002	-	-

组别	IL-8			
	术前	术后4周	z值	P值
试验组	193.71 (185.76, 229.25)	200.67 (194.74, 207.36)	0.433	0.045
对照组	231.65 (210.81, 243.86)	209.73 (205.25, 217.77)	1.569	0.017
z值	-1.214	-2.244	-	-
P值	0.225	0.025	-	-

注: “-”为无相关数据。

3 讨论

HCC是世界性的重要公共卫生问题^[7], HCC的治疗仍是研究探索的焦点^[8]。作为一种典型的炎症相关性肿瘤, HCC具有免疫原性, 可影响宿主的免疫系统, 避免杀伤^[9]。随着相关肝癌免疫治疗研究的进展, 更多的数据证明免疫治疗不但对晚期肝癌有效^[10], 而且在肝癌的各个阶段, 无论选择单药还是联合治疗, 免疫治疗药物均具有合理性及潜在优势^[11]。健康的免疫系统是免疫药物起到短期内杀伤肿瘤细胞、长期控制肿瘤复发作用的关键。因此了解肝癌患者术前、术后机体免疫功能的变化, 选择对患者免疫功能影响更小、甚至可改善其免疫功能的治疗手段对改善患者愈后及进一步开展联合免疫治疗的方案具有显著意义。

在中国, HBV、HCV感染和肝硬化等慢性肝病是原发性肝癌发生的重要危险因素^[12,13]。作为肝硬化常见并发症, 患者往往同时伴门静脉高压所导致的重度脾功能亢进, 伴有近期发生的食管胃底静脉破裂出血或存在较高的上消化道出血风险^[14]。这需要临床医生在治疗肿瘤的同时, 还要解决患者脾功能亢进及降低患者上消化道出血风险等多个相关问题^[15,16]。既往临床研究表明, 特定条件下针对罹患肝癌的肝硬化脾功能亢进患者, 同期肝癌切除及Hassab手术是安全的^[2]。随着目前微创技术的更广泛应用, 部分患者以RFA代替肝癌切除手术, 更大程度上降低了手术风险, 手术安全性得到保障^[3,17]。

在临床工作中, 无论肝癌切除术还是RFA, 术后肝癌复发转移仍是影响手术疗效的决定性因素^[18]。鉴于肝脏本身独特的免疫微环境, 其中各种免疫细胞及细胞产物相互作用, 参与原发性肝癌的免疫耐受及应答, 影响其发展与预后^[19], 因此目前评估患者免疫环境及术后免疫功能变化, 并利用免疫系统治疗肝癌和预防肝癌复发是研究的热点^[20]。肝癌及肝硬化患者本身即处于免疫抑制状态^[21]。肝癌患者存在细胞免疫功能紊乱, 表现为外周血CD4⁺ T细胞减少、CD8⁺ T细胞增加及CD4⁺/CD8⁺细胞比值显著降低^[22]。肝癌切除术后一段时间内免疫功能抑制将会进一步加重。有研究表明, 免疫功能抑制于术后数小时发生并可持续数天, 持续时间同手术创伤范围呈正比^[23]; 同时鉴于手术本身对神经系统、内分泌系统、代谢、炎症和免疫微环境的影响, 手术诱发的应激反应可能会刺激血管生成和再血管化^[24]。这种过度的炎症反应及术后免疫抑制发生被认为是术后外科感染和肿瘤复发的原因。

有研究表明, 采用肝癌RFA灭活肿瘤, 不仅可使直径≤5 cm的小肝癌一次性完全灭活, 还可激活机体

的免疫系统, 调节肝癌患者的免疫细胞^[25]。局部热消融后可增强死亡和凋亡肿瘤细胞中肿瘤相关抗原的释放和暴露, 不仅可减轻肿瘤负荷, 还可减轻肿瘤产生的免疫抑制, 从而有助于产生抗肿瘤免疫并增强宿主免疫反应^[26]。局部热消融术后CD3⁺、CD4⁺ T细胞数量及NK、LAK细胞活性显著增加, 而外周血CD8⁺ T细胞数量减少, CD4⁺/CD8⁺比值升高^[27]。本研究表明, 当联合Hassab手术时, 无论行肝癌切除还是RFA, 术后患者免疫抑制都会一过性加重, 但联合RFA手术组的患者, 细胞免疫功能所受抑制相对较轻。远期观察, 肝癌RFA联合Hassab手术或肝癌切除联合Hassab手术却对患者细胞免疫产生了积极的影响, CD4⁺/CD8⁺比例较术前升高, 且以试验组升高尤为明显。

淋巴细胞是肿瘤免疫的主要细胞类型, 其中CD4⁺ T细胞主要分泌细胞因子来调节抗肿瘤免疫, CD4⁺ T细胞主要包括Th1和Th2两个亚群。当Th1细胞分泌更多细胞因子(如IL-2、IL-12、IFN-γ、TNF-α)并显示抗肿瘤作用时, Th1/Th2比值向Th1偏离; 当Th2细胞分泌更多细胞因子(如IL-4、IL-6、IL-8、IL-10)并主要在肿瘤进展期促进肿瘤生长时, Th1/Th2比值向Th2偏离。本研究中两组患者术后4周细胞因子均发生Th1↑/Th2↓、向Th1偏移, 因此患者体内的免疫失衡得到纠正, 细胞免疫功能得到改善; 并且RFA联合Hassab手术组患者细胞免疫功能的远期改善更好。

即使在肝癌切除或RFA等治疗后, 肝癌患者的肿瘤复发率仍较高。这主要归因于术前未检测到的微卫星灶^[28,29]。一些临床试验已经评估了干扰素、类视黄醇、维生素K或索拉非尼辅助治疗这些微卫星病变的效果, 但尚无积极的结果。随着精准个体化肝癌治疗时代的到来, 免疫治疗技术联合传统的手术治疗、放化疗和局部治疗等综合治疗方案将会发挥更强有力的作用^[30,31]。而无论是短期内杀伤肿瘤细胞, 还是达到长期控制肿瘤复发的目的, 免疫药物起效的必要条件都是健康的免疫系统。本研究提示对于特定人群, 在RFA灭活或切除肿瘤的同时, 长远看行脾切除术可为该类患者术后提供更为理想的免疫微环境, 为未来联合免疫治疗提供了理论基础。

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收稿日期: 2021-03-08

贾哲, 赫嵘, 黄容海, 等. 同期肝癌射频消融联合Hassab手术对肝细胞癌合并门静脉高压患者细胞免疫功能的影响[J/CD]. *中国肝脏病杂志(电子版)*, 2022, 14(3):61-67.