

代谢相关脂肪性肝病与心血管疾病风险相关性研究现状

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摘要: 代谢相关脂肪性肝病 (metabolic associated fatty liver disease, MAFLD) 是全球常见的慢性肝病, 是以肝脏脂肪堆积为基础, 合并超重/肥胖、2型糖尿病或代谢紊乱的一种代谢功能障碍性疾病。MAFLD患者因脂质代谢异常, 往往与高血压、动脉粥样硬化和急性冠脉综合征、心力衰竭等心血管疾病 (cardiovascular disease, CVD) 密切相关。CVD已成为MAFLD患者肝外死亡的主要原因。但目前对MAFLD人群CVD相关风险管理评价相对缺乏。本文对近年来MAFLD相关心脑血管不良事件筛查临床研究现状进行综述, 重点阐述MAFLD患者CVD风险评估的研究现状。

关键词: 代谢相关脂肪性肝病; 心血管疾病; 动脉硬化

Research progress on the correlation between metabolic associated fatty liver disease and cardiovascular disease risk

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Abstract: Metabolic associated fatty liver disease (MAFLD) is a common chronic liver disease in the world. Based on the accumulation of liver fat, MAFLD is a metabolic dysfunction disease combined with overweight/obesity, type 2 diabetes or metabolic disorder. Because of abnormal lipid metabolism, patients with MAFLD are often closely related to cardiovascular diseases (CVD), such as hypertension, atherosclerosis, acute coronary syndrome, heart failure. CVD has become the leading cause of extrahepatic death in patients with MAFLD. However, currently there is a relative lack of CVD related risk management evaluation algorithms for MAFLD population. This article provided a literature review of the current clinical research status of screening for cardiovascular and cerebrovascular adverse events related to MAFLD in recent years, with a focus on the research status of CVD risk assessment in patients with MAFLD.

Keywords: Metabolic associated fatty liver disease; Cardiovascular disease; Arteriosclerosis

1 代谢相关脂肪性肝病的流行病学

非酒精性脂肪性肝病 (non-alcoholic fatty liver disease, NAFLD) 是全球常见的慢性肝病之一, 随着肝炎疫苗的普及和西方生活方式的引进, NAFLD已经成为导致中国慢性肝损伤和终末期肝病的主要因素^[1]。NAFLD是以胰岛素抵抗为核心的慢性肝病, 与2型糖尿病及代谢综合征互为因果, 这种共病机制促进了心血管疾病 (cardiovascular disease, CVD) 的发病。为了更精确定义NAFLD及其代谢异常的病理生理学基础, 2020年国际脂肪肝专家组建议NAFLD更名为代谢相关脂肪性肝病 (metabolic

associated fatty liver disease, MAFLD)^[2], 同期亚太肝病学会发布了MAFLD诊疗指南^[3], 2024年欧洲肝病学会、糖尿病学会及肥胖学会联合发布了MAFLD管理临床实践指南^[4], 同时中华医学会肝病学分会再次更新MAFLD防治指南^[5], 此命名有助于肝病科临床医生更充分关注该病的代谢异常与CVD风险间的关系。2022年的一项荟萃分析显示, MAFLD总患病率为38.77%, 其中欧洲患病率最高 (55.33%), 其次是亚洲 (36.31%)^[6]。在中国, MAFLD患病率从2009年的22.75%上升到2017年的35.58%, 北方患病率增长 (21.76%) 高于南方 (9.68%)^[7]。预计2016年至2030年期间, 中国MAFLD病例总数增加最快, 为29.1%^[8]。MAFLD以肝脂肪堆积为病理特征, 在影像学诊断脂肪性肝病和 (或) 病理学≥

5%肝细胞大泡性脂肪变性的基础上,除外过量饮酒(乙醇摄入量男性 ≥ 210 g/周、女性 ≥ 140 g/周)、基因3型丙型肝炎病毒感染、药物性脂肪肝、肝豆状核变性和营养不良等导致的脂肪肝,同时存在至少1项CVD危险因素,包括:①体重指数 ≥ 24.0 kg/m²,或腰围 ≥ 90 cm(男性)和 85 cm(女性),或体脂肪含量和体脂百分比超标;②空腹血糖 ≥ 6.1 mmol/L,或糖负荷后2 h血糖 ≥ 7.8 mmol/L或糖化血红蛋白 $\geq 5.7\%$,或2型糖尿病史,或稳态型评估法胰岛素抵抗指数 ≥ 2.5 ;③空腹血清甘油三酯 ≥ 1.70 mmol/L,或者正在接受降脂药物治疗;④血清高密度脂蛋白 ≤ 1.0 mmol/L(男性)和 1.3 mmol/L(女性),或正在接受降脂药物治疗;⑤血压 $\geq 130/85$ mmHg(1 mmHg = 0.133 kPa),或正在接受降血压药物治疗。MAFLD作为一种进行性疾病,可发展为代谢相关脂肪性肝炎(metabolic associated steatohepatitis, MASH)、代谢相关脂肪性肝纤维化、代谢相关脂肪性肝硬化甚至肝细胞癌(hepatocellular carcinoma, HCC)。MAFLD作为一种多系统疾病,可促进CVD、慢性肾脏病^[9,10]以及消化道相关癌症^[11]的发病。CVD已成为MAFLD患者肝外并发症主要死因。

2 MAFLD 病理生理机制对 CVD 发生发展的影响

MAFLD的定义对超重/肥胖、2型糖尿病或代谢综合征等其他特征的存在有强制性诊断要求,这都与CVD风险增加有关。MAFLD本身通过与代谢功能障碍相关的多种病理生理机制增加CVD风险,包括氧化应激增加、全身/肝脏胰岛素抵抗、慢性炎症以及内皮功能障碍和脂代谢异常^[12]。肝脏过量的脂肪堆积导致活性氧(reactive oxygen species, ROS)生成增加,ROS导致低密度脂蛋白(low-density lipoprotein, LDL)氧化,促进了泡沫细胞的产生,与血浆中高甘油三酯共同作用促进了血管炎症和损伤,成为动脉粥样硬化形成和发展的基础^[9,13]。肝脏胰岛素抵抗是MAFLD核心病理生理机制之一,胰岛素抵抗促进肝脏脂质从头生成增加,以多种方式影响微血管及大血管稳态;同时炎症还会加重内皮功能障碍,改变血管张力,促进血管斑块形成^[9]。另外,肾素-血管紧张素-醛固酮系统(renin angiotensin aldosterone system, RAAS)过度激活与胰岛素抵抗、机体炎症、氧化应激等也密切相关,患者肝脏脂肪中血管紧张素II增加,使得血管平滑肌收缩,醛固酮分泌增加,造成水钠潴留,导致高血压及心力衰竭风险升高^[14]。据报道,遗传因素及肠道菌群可能在MAFLD和CVD中发挥作用^[15]。

3 MAFLD 与 CVD 风险间的关系

3.1 MAFLD显著增加CVD风险 MAFLD与代谢紊乱密切相关,患者发生肝外并发症的风险增加。已

有多种证据表明,因代谢失调,MAFLD患者罹患CVD风险更高。Mantovani等^[16]对36项纵向研究进行Meta分析,共纳入5 802 226例被观察对象,中位随访时间为6.5年,共有99 668例致死性和非致死性CVD事件,结果表明NAFLD与致死性或非致死性CVD事件风险中度增加相关($HR = 1.45$, 95%CI: 1.31~1.61),并且肝纤维化越重,CVD事件发生风险越高($HR = 2.5$, 95%CI: 1.68~3.72)。一项基于韩国健康数据库的研究纳入了9 584 399例被观察对象,在排除CVD患者后,对8 962 813例NAFLD或MAFLD人群进行为期10.1年的随访,结果显示NAFLD与MAFLD均可导致CVD风险升高,相对于NAFLD人群($HR = 1.09$, 95%CI: 1.03~1.15),MAFLD群体发生CVD事件的风险更高($HR = 1.43$, 95%CI: 1.41~1.45)^[17]。在一项社区队列研究的17 212例被观察对象群中筛选出6873例进行为期4.6年的随访,6395例在基线无CVD的个体中,无脂肪肝、NAFLD、MAFLD群体CVD发生率分别为8.7%(95%CI: 7.4~10.3)、12.6%(95%CI: 10.7~14.9)、12.3%(95%CI: 10.6~14.4)^[18]。Wen等^[19]纳入了10项队列研究进行Meta分析,在32 227 229例MAFLD患者中有113 576例随访期间发生CVD;939例死于CVD,而在58 217 054例非MAFLD患者中113 576例随访期间发生CVD,1030例死于CVD,表明MAFLD显著增加了CVD和CVD相关死亡风险。相对于无代谢风险的MAFLD人群,有代谢风险的MAFLD人群罹患CVD风险更高。

3.2 MAFLD与亚临床动脉粥样硬化相关 MAFLD已被证实与亚临床动脉粥样硬化相关指标水平相关,包括较高的颈动脉内膜中层厚度、较大的冠状动脉钙化灶以及冠状动脉高危阻塞性斑块和非钙化斑块。Wang等^[20]研究发现,MAFLD与动脉粥样硬化相关,特别是与多动脉硬化相关性更强,MAFLD人群的颈动脉内膜中层厚度增加($OR = 1.41$, 95%CI: 1.18~1.68)、颈动脉斑块($OR = 1.23$, 95%CI: 1.02~1.48)、冠状动脉钙化($OR = 1.60$, 95%CI: 1.24~2.08)和视网膜动脉粥样硬化($OR = 1.79$, 95%CI: 1.28~2.52)的风险较高。一项回顾性研究纳入1164例患者,旨在观察MAFLD与冠状动脉硬化间的关系,结果表明与非MAFLD人群相比,MAFLD人群的冠状动脉非钙化斑块($OR = 1.64$, 95%CI: 1.14~2.35, $P = 0.007$)和冠状动脉混合斑块($OR = 1.46$, 95%CI: 1.06~2.01, $P = 0.020$)发生率更高;MAFLD也与冠状动脉严重狭窄相关,但在校正心血管危险因素后这种相关性消失^[21]。研究表明NAFLD特别是合并代谢综合征患者的动脉硬化发生风险更高^[22]。Liu等^[23]利用

社区队列的数据对6232例被观察者进行为期4.3年的随访,发现MAFLD与亚临床动脉粥样硬化风险显著相关。国内近期的横断面研究发现,与健康对照人群相比,MAFLD人群颈动脉内中膜厚度升高的风险增加1.08倍($OR = 2.08$, 95%CI: 2.02~2.14, $P < 0.001$),颈动脉斑块风险增加1.53倍($OR = 0.53$, 95%CI: 1.49~1.57, $P < 0.001$),MAFLD与亚临床颈动脉粥样硬化显著相关($OR = 1.66$, 95%CI: 1.62~1.70),并且MAFLD与发生亚临床颈动脉粥样硬化间的相关性随脂肪变性严重程度增加而增加^[24]。韩国近期的一项大样本观察性研究中也发现MAFLD人群有较高的冠状动脉钙化(coronary artery calcification, CAC)风险^[25]。综上所述,MAFLD人群有更高的亚临床动脉粥样硬化风险。

3.3 MAFLD与心律失常风险增加相关 Mantovani等^[26]对367例2型糖尿病患者(非MAFLD 129例,MAFLD 238例)进行回顾性分析,结果表明MAFLD合并2型糖尿病患者阵发性室上性心动过速(51.7%)、阵发性心房颤动(6.3%)和室性快速性心律失常(31.9%)患病率更高,其中阵发性室上性心动过速($OR = 2.04$, 95%CI: 1.04~4.00)与室性快速性心律失常($OR = 2.44$, 95%CI: 1.16~5.11)风险最高,MAFLD严重程度与这种心律失常呈正比。中国一项涉及10个省份16个健康中心1 939 590例被观察对象的研究显示,与非MAFLD组相比,MAFLD组心房颤动患病率更高($OR = 1.18$, 95%CI: 1.12~1.25, $P < 0.001$),在多变量调整后,MAFLD仍与心房颤动相关($OR = 1.12$, 95%CI: 1.05~1.18, $P < 0.001$),这种关系在MAFLD合并糖尿病以及血脂异常人群中尤为突出^[7]。一项纳入3 279 918例被观察对象的回顾性研究发现,在平均(1160 ± 905)d随访期间,多变量调整后MAFLD人群心房颤动风险最高($HR = 1.51$, 95%CI: 1.46~1.57)^[27]。总之,MAFLD人群罹患心律失常特别是心房颤动的风险更高。

3.4 MAFLD与动脉粥样硬化性CVD事件相关 MAFLD患者的主要死因是动脉粥样硬化性心血管疾病(atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease, ASCVD),包括急性冠脉综合征、心肌梗死、缺血性卒中史和有症状的外周动脉疾病。Kim等^[28]对美国第3次全国健康和营养调查分析发现,在对7761例具有代谢风险的观察对象进行为期23年的随访中,MAFLD患者全因死亡率比非MAFLD患者增加1.15倍($HR = 2.15$, 95%CI: 1.90~2.42)并且与较高的心血管死亡风险相关。Chen等^[29]通过英国生物样本库对325 129例被观察对象的数据分析发现,在随访期间(中位随访时间为12.8年),

相比于非MAFLD群体,MAFLD人群发生心肌梗死($HR = 1.35$, 95%CI: 1.29~1.41, $P < 0.001$)或卒中($HR = 1.26$, 95%CI: 1.18~1.33, $P < 0.001$)的可能性更高。在2项基于韩国脂肪性肝病人群的大样本观察研究中均发现MAFLD人群CVD病死率较高^[30,31]。近期一项基于全国健康筛查数据库的研究也证实了MAFLD与CVD间的关系,该研究纳入了3 087 640例MAFLD患者,在10年随访期间共发现169 433例CVD事件,以非MAFLD组为对照,合并超重/肥胖MAFLD($HR = 1.16$, 95%CI: 1.15~1.18)、瘦型MAFLD($HR = 1.23$, 95%CI: 1.20~1.27)、糖尿病合并MAFLD($HR = 1.82$, 95%CI: 1.80~1.85)人群均有较高的CVD风险,此外,晚期肝纤维化与较高的CVD风险显著相关^[32]。由此可见,MAFLD会增加发生不良ASCVD结局的风险。

3.5 MAFLD与心肌结构和功能异常有关 研究发现,即使没有常见的CVD危险因素,MAFLD也与新发心力衰竭风险增加相关^[33]。一项基于社区的大型前瞻性研究纳入98 685例无心力衰竭的人群,中位随访时间为14.01年,其中3260例确诊为心力衰竭,MAFLD组发病率(3.29/1000人年)高于非MAFLD组(2.19/1000人年),在调整协变量后,MAFLD人群发生心力衰竭的风险仍显著增加($HR = 1.40$, 95%CI: 1.30~1.50),MAFLD组比非MAFLD组心力衰竭风险增加了0.4倍,另外随脂肪肝严重程度增加,心力衰竭风险也会增加^[34]。类似地,另一项大型前瞻性队列研究指出,与非MAFLD患者相比,女性显著MAFLD患者心力衰竭风险增加84%($HR = 1.84$, 95%CI: 1.43~2.37),特别是在45岁以下显著MAFLD患者中心力衰竭风险更高($HR = 2.72$, 95%CI: 1.87~3.97)^[35]。Ohno等^[28]的回顾性研究发现,3 279 918例被观察对象平均随访(1160 ± 905)d,62 746例患者发生心力衰竭事件,其中MAFLD组发病风险最高[91.6 (95%CI: 90.5~92.7)/10 000人年],多变量调整后,MAFLD心力衰竭风险仍较高($HR = 1.73$, 95%CI: 1.69~1.76),MAFLD组心肌梗死($HR = 1.95$, 95%CI: 1.84~2.07)、心绞痛($HR = 1.54$, 95%CI: 1.51~1.57)、卒中($HR = 1.42$, 95%CI: 1.38~1.46)以及复合CVD事件($HR = 1.57$, 95%CI: 1.55~1.59)的风险相对较高,且当MAFLD合并超重、代谢综合征、糖尿病时CVD风险最高。一项为期5年的针对无症状NAFLD人群的前瞻性研究中发现NAFLD与亚临床左心室重塑、几何形状异常和左心室功能受损相关^[36]。Goland等^[37]也发现,即使没有高血压、糖尿病和病态肥胖,与非MAFLD人群相比,MAFLD患者左心室几何形状也

不同,表现出左心室舒张功能障碍的早期特征。总体而言,MAFLD作为一种代谢因素参与CVD的发生发展,使MAFLD患者罹患心力衰竭风险更高。

4 MAFLD 人群 CVD 风险监测

4.1 实验室检查 一般人群CVD风险监测主要涉及吸烟、高血压、糖尿病和慢性肾脏病等主要危险因素。高血压是导致我国居民CVD发病和死亡增加的首要并且可以改变的危险因素,约50%的CVD发病和20%的CVD死亡归因于高血压^[38]。糖尿病既是心血管病的独立危险因素又是MAFLD的危险因素,糖尿病患者一旦发生ASCVD,其病变弥漫复杂,预后差^[39]。慢性肾脏病(chronic kidney disease, CKD)是CVD发生的独立危险因素,而NAFLD患者慢性肾脏病发生风险较高。一项大型荟萃分析表明NAFLD患者慢性肾脏病风险随NAFLD严重程度增加而增加^[40]。

MAFLD患者在进行CVD风险监测时,不仅要兼顾上述一般人群发生CVD的主要危险因素,更要兼顾脂质代谢、磷脂代谢等反映代谢风险的指标,肝酶、炎症介质等反映肝脏炎症程度的指标,一些微小miRNA(microRNA, miRNA)等潜在标志物对MAFLD患者CVD风险监测也有一定价值。

肝脏脂质代谢障碍可增加心脏病、脑卒中和动脉粥样硬化的风险。MAFLD患者常见的脂代谢紊乱表现为高水平低密度脂蛋白和高甘油三酯,以及低水平高密度脂蛋白,这种脂质改变增加了NAFLD患者CVD发生风险^[41]。Corey等^[42]对78例接受减重手术的肥胖患者的脂蛋白颗粒全谱分析发现,不同于无非酒精性脂肪性肝炎(non-alcoholic steatohepatitis, NASH)患者,NASH患者具有更高水平的低密度脂蛋白和低水平高密度脂蛋白,这种血脂谱的改变增加了CVD的风险。此外,MAFLD人群血清脂蛋白a增加,血清脂蛋白a可有效预测CVD风险,但Wu等^[43]研究表明,晚期肝纤维化MAFLD患者中血清脂蛋白a下降,从而降低了对CVD风险的预测,可能原因是肝纤维化造成了肝脏脂质合成的障碍。胰岛素抵抗是连接MAFLD与CVD的重要机制,临床常表现为脂代谢异常,提示对脂代谢障碍的MAFLD患者应尽早干预以降低CVD风险。

磷脂代谢的改变与MAFLD和CVD的发展有关。循环磷脂模式已被证明与MAFLD的代谢危险因素、肝脂肪变性和炎症严重程度有关,一些磷脂类包括溶血磷脂酰胆碱和磷脂酰胆碱已被证明在非肥胖MAFLD的发病机制中具有潜在作用,这些磷脂也与CVD的发生有关^[44,45]。肥胖和胰岛素抵抗可能导致血清中支链氨基酸增加。支链氨基酸被认为是胰岛素抵抗和CVD的风险预测因子,并且与肝脏

中的脂肪堆积相关^[46,47]。代谢组学分析研究发现,MAFLD人群的甘氨酸及溶血磷脂酰胆碱水平可作为检测心血管风险的代谢标志物^[48]。一项多中心横断面研究纳入了180例患者(120例MAFLD患者,60例非MAFLD患者),通过代谢组学分析发现,氨基酸、碳水化合物、维生素以及脂质相关的56种代谢产物与颈动脉粥样硬化(carotid atherosclerosis, CAS)相关,尤其是磷脂酰乙醇胺、新生脂肪、磷脂酰甘油以及肝脏硬度组合是非肥胖MAFLD患者CAS较强的预测因子,而胱氨酸、鞘磷脂、新生脂肪等与肥胖MAFLD患者CAS显著相关^[49]。目前针对MAFLD人群组学研究相对较少,虽然部分研究显示特定的代谢物质对MAFLD和CVD有预测作用,但因研究样本量小,研究对象没有进行长期随访以验证这些预测因子是否可纵向检测MAFLD、CVD的变化,故还存在一定局限性。

血清肝酶包括丙氨酸氨基转移酶(alanine aminotransferase, ALT)、天冬氨酸氨基转移酶(aspartate aminotransferase, AST)和γ-谷氨酰转氨酶(gamma-glutamyl transferase, GGT)水平与CVD风险增加有关^[50]。一项针对欧洲和东亚人群的研究指出,欧洲人群中高水平ALT、AST导致冠状动脉疾病和卒中风险升高,但AST可能会降低心房颤动的风险,而在东亚人群中ALT、AST与冠状动脉疾病风险呈负相关^[51]。AST/ALT升高以及低水平ALT均增加CVD的死亡率^[52]。此外,AST和ALT作为与肝脏脂肪堆积密切相关的酶,常用作预测NAFLD的标志物,如Qiu等^[53]发现ALT与高密度脂蛋白水平的比值与NAFLD呈正相关。另一项研究也发现,与非NAFLD患者相比,NAFLD患者AST、ALT水平更高,NAFLD患者心脏传导阻滞风险增加($OR = 3.04$, 95%CI: 1.81~5.10)^[54]。MAFLD人群肝酶与CVD的研究样本量较少且以观察性研究为主,导致混杂因素和研究群体的选择偏倚普遍存在,两者间的相关性仍需更多的循证医学证据。

慢性炎症在CVD和MAFLD的病理生理中均具有重要作用,临床上表现为C反应蛋白(c-reactive protein, CRP)、肿瘤坏死因子-α(tumor necrosis factor-α, TNF-α)和白细胞介素(interleukin, IL)等多种炎症介质水平升高,而高水平IL-6、CRP与CVD风险显著相关^[55,56]。对10 019例左室射血分数正常的MAFLD人群的回溯性研究发现,MAFLD人群CRP水平升高与心力衰竭住院风险升高显著相关(校正 $HR = 4.421$, 95%CI: 3.720~5.254)^[57]。为了探讨MAFLD患者超敏C反应蛋白(high-sensitivity c-reactive protein, HS-

CRP)与25年死亡率间的关系,一项基于第3次美国健康与营养调查的研究对4145例患者进行为期22.3年的随访,发现HS-CRP水平高于5 mg/L与MAFLD的全因、心血管和恶性肿瘤相关死亡风险增加显著相关^[58]。由此可见,相较于非MAFLD人群,MAFLD人群CRP、IL等炎症介质水平更高,CVD风险更大。

越来越多的miRNA正逐步被视为各种疾病诊断及评价的潜在标志物。Makarencov等^[59]利用二代测序技术对肝脏脂肪含量 $\geq 5\%$ 且没有明显CVD的13例45岁以上的患者进行血浆miRNA测序,以明确与NAFLD患者心血管风险相关的潜在标志物,其鉴定出的1103个miRNA和404 022个经典miRNA序列的亚型(isoforms of canonical miRNA sequences, isomiRs)中,67个isomiRs与基于CAC评分的心血管风险百分位数(cac score-based cv-risk percentile, CAC-CV%)高度相关($R \geq 0.55$);其中miRNA101-3p、miRNA144-3p、miRNA421及miRNA484的特异性isomiR与CAC-CV%表现出更强的相关性。其他类似的研究也发现了特定miRNA与MAFLD间的关系^[60]。但基于MAFLD人群的miRNA与CVD间前瞻性研究的循证医学证据依然较少。

4.2 影像学检查 MAFLD患者发生动脉粥样硬化的风险增加,而CAS被认为是冠状动脉粥样硬化的替代标志,颈动脉内膜中层厚度则是CVD的标志物和风险预测因素^[61]。针对CVD特别是冠心病的研究越来越多,临床上常使用冠状动脉造影、冠状动脉计算机断层成像、超声检查、运动平板试验等方法来评估冠状动脉病变情况,冠状动脉造影仍是检测冠心病患者冠脉狭窄及硬化程度的首要方法,但因检查费及操作要求较高,且具有一定的创伤性和检查后可能出现的并发症等,在冠心病早期筛查中有一定局限性^[62,63]。因此,根据中国成人10年风险和终身风险评估模型明确MAFLD患者的CVD风险筛查,便宜、易于操作的非侵入性的动脉血管超声检查可作为首选。

4.3 其他 最近证据表明,肝纤维化严重程度与致死性和非致死性CVD事件风险增加有关。MAFLD患者在肝脂肪变基础上,有进行性肝纤维化、肝硬化的风险,肝纤维化评估工具肝纤维化4因子指数(fibrosis index based on the 4 factors, FIB-4)、非酒精性脂肪性肝病纤维化评分(non-alcoholic fatty liver disease fibrosis score, NFS)及紫藤凝集素阳性Mac-2结合蛋白(wisteria floribunda agglutinin-positive mac-2 binding protein, WFA⁺-M2BP)有助于MAFLD患者心血管风险的评估。Tamaki等^[64]发现,进展期肝纤维化(FIB-4 ≥ 2.67 、NFS ≥ 0.675 和WFA⁺-M2BP ≥ 1.0)和脂肪肝的存在与高CVD

风险显著相关。针对MAFLD群体的单中心回顾性研究提示,FIB-4 ≥ 2.67 是NAFLD-MAFLD组CVD的独立危险因素^[65];FIB-4、NFS评分和MAFLD患者CVD严重程度呈正相关^[66]。Baratta等^[67]的前瞻性研究中,对898例代谢综合征门诊患者进行了为期41.4个月随访,结果显示,NAFLD和FIB-4 ≥ 2.67 的患者致死性和非致死性CVD事件发生率是非NAFLD患者的4.02倍($HR = 4.02$, 95%CI: 1.06~5.74)。相比于复杂、昂贵的肝活检或影像学检查,基于血清学检查的肝纤维化评估工具更适用于社区MAFLD人群CVD的筛查。

脂肪肝指数(fatty liver index, FLI)由体重指数、腰围、GGT及甘油三酯计算所得,对于心血管事件风险较高个体的预后具有预测价值,是NAFLD的替代标志物。一项对3 011 588例被观察对象6年随访研究发现,即使在调整混杂因素后,FLI也是心血管事件的独立预测因子,较高的FLI与非致死性心肌梗死、非致死性缺血性卒中、心血管死亡的风险显著增加有关^[68]。另一项研究也发现,高水平FLI是10年间缺血性心脏病新发的独立预测因子^[69]。Kweon等^[70]使用4种NAFLD评分系统[FLI、肝脂肪变性指数(hepatic steatosis index, HSI)、NAFLD简单评分、NAFLD综合评分]对23 376例患者进行CVD风险评估(使用Framingham风险评分计算心血管风险),不同于FLI,HSI是基于ALT与AST比值基础上根据体重指数、糖尿病以及是否是女性项目进行赋分,结果显示FLI评分系统与CVD风险的相关性最强。由此可见,FLI可预测CVD风险。

5 总结与展望

综上,MAFLD已经成为全球常见的慢性疾病,CVD则是MAFLD患者的主要死因,MAFLD患者CVD风险的评估受到广泛关注。MAFLD可能仅增加CVD风险,但使用普遍的Framingham风险评分并未纳入MAFLD指标。虽然现阶段研究已证实,除了常见的颈动脉超声等影像学外,基于转氨酶的血清纤维化生物标志物(如FIB-4、NFS)、血脂和脂蛋白、代谢组学分析等检查也对MAFLD患者心血管风险评估起作用,但尚无统一的MAFLD筛查指南。因此,对MAFLD患者CVD风险评价的新算法是本领域迫切需要解决的主要问题之一。

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