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内质网应激在肺肿瘤中的作用

王李乐^{1,2} 综述 胡瑞成², 戴爱国² 审校

(1. 南华大学附属省马王堆医院呼吸内科, 长沙 410016; 2. 湖南省老年医院呼吸疾病研究所, 长沙 410001)

[摘要] 内质网是细胞的蛋白质加工厂, 主要负责蛋白质的合成、折叠和装配。各种生理和病理条件(如缺氧、氧化还原状态的变化)可能会干扰内质网的功能, 并导致未折叠蛋白在内质网中积累, 导致内质网应激(endoplasmic reticulum stress, ERS)。ERS是细胞抵抗外来不良刺激的一种重要保护机制, 也是决定细胞命运的关键。适度的ERS能够促进肺肿瘤细胞生存和转移, 过度的ERS则促进肺肿瘤细胞凋亡。多种抗肿瘤药物都可通过加重ERS而促进肺肿瘤细胞凋亡。

[关键词] 内质网应激; 肺肿瘤; 细胞凋亡

Roles of endoplasmic reticulum stress in lung tumors

WANG Lile^{1,2}, HU Ruicheng², DAI Aiguo²

(1. Department of Respiratory, Hunan Mawangdui Hospital Affiliated to University of South China, Changsha 410016;

2. Institute of Respiratory Disease, Hunan Geriatric Hospital, Changsha 410001, China)

Abstract Endoplasmic reticulum is a protein's factory which has many function such as protein synthesis, folding and assembly. A variety of injuries (including hypoxia changes in redox state) can interfere the function of the endoplasmic reticulum and cause unfolded protein accumulation in the endoplasmic reticulum, which result in endoplasmic reticulum stress (ERS). when external negative factors comes to cells, ERS is an important protective mechanism, as well as a key which decide their fate. Although reasonable ERS can promote lung cancer cells survival and metastasis, excessive ERS may cause lung cancer cells apoptosis. Various anticancer drugs can induce apoptosis of lung cancer cells by means of reinforcing ERS.

Key words endoplasmic reticulum stress; lung tumor; apoptosis

内质网是细胞的蛋白质加工厂, 主要负责膜蛋白和分泌蛋白的合成和折叠加工。氧化应激、缺氧、细胞毒性物质、营养缺乏等诸多不良刺激因素都能够引起内质网功能障碍, 造成内质网腔内错误折叠蛋白和未折叠蛋白积聚增多, 引起内质

网应激(endoplasmic reticulum stress, ERS)^[1-3]。ERS是细胞抵抗外来不良刺激的一种重要保护机制, 也是决定细胞命运的双刃剑。适度的ERS能够促进肺肿瘤生长和转移, 并提高肺肿瘤细胞对化学治疗药物的耐受能力, 过度的ERS则促进肺肿瘤细胞

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通信作者 (Corresponding author): 胡瑞成, Email: huruicheng@hotmail.com

凋亡。

大量的研究^[4-7]已经表明ERS在肺肿瘤的发生和发展中起着关键的作用。临床上通过诱导肺肿瘤细胞凋亡的方式治疗肿瘤^[8]。ERS通过其作用的强度和持续时间来调节细胞的生存或凋亡, 并且参与机体的发展、衰老和死亡的调控。有研究^[9]表明, ERS在肿瘤细胞的发展、侵袭和转移中发挥着重要的作用。本文就近年来ERS在肺肿瘤细胞中的作用进行综述。

1 ERS对细胞凋亡的影响

细胞凋亡是一种主动的细胞程序性死亡, 在生理和病理情况下均可发生。对人体而言, 这既可以是一种保护行为, 又可以是一种损伤行为。内质网是细胞的蛋白质加工厂, 主要负责膜蛋白和分泌蛋白的合成和折叠加工。正常情况下, 细胞内质网中的蛋白质折叠处于动态平衡, 一旦受到敏感因素(缺血、缺氧、理化因素等)影响, 打破平衡, 引发ERS, 内质网膜上的跨膜蛋白激酶R样内质网激酶(protein kinase R-like endoplasmic reticulum kinase, PERK)、肌醇需求酶1(inositol requiring enzyme 1, IRE-1)、激活转录因子6(activating transcription factor 6, ATF6)与葡萄糖调节蛋白78(glucose regulate protein 78, GRP78)解离活化, 导致未折叠蛋白反应(unfolded protein response, UPR)。然后激活下游C/EBP同源蛋白(C/EBP-homologous protei, CHOP)、半胱天冬氨酸12(caspase-12)、c-Jun N端激酶(c-Jun NH₂-terminal kinases, JNK)信号通路, 加速诱导细胞凋亡^[10-11]。

2 细胞凋亡在肺肿瘤发生和发展中的意义

对肺肿瘤细胞而言, 适度促进凋亡可达到清除病变细胞、缓解病情、甚至治疗效果。但过度过强的细胞凋亡使机体无法代偿, 因而会使病情迅速恶化。ERS启动未折叠蛋白反应, 通过抑制蛋白质翻译过程以减轻内质网的负荷, 上调分子伴侣的表达水平以提高内质网的蛋白质折叠效率, 加速错误折叠和未折叠蛋白降解过程等三方面机制恢复内质网的功能以维持细胞生存, 如果ERS过于强烈或者持续时间过长, 通过以上调节机制仍然不能够有效恢复内质网的正常功能, 细胞将启动凋亡程序, 这种由ERS启动的细胞凋亡称为内质网应激诱导性凋亡(endoplasmic reticulum stress-

induced apoptosis, ERSIA)^[12]。从上面结果可以看出, 细胞凋亡在肺肿瘤的发生、发展中既可正向调节, 也可负向调节。ERS则是决定细胞命运的双刃剑。研究^[13]发现: 细胞经脂多糖(LPS)和干扰素- α (IFN- α)可诱导内质网上钙泵抑制和ERS, 可使ATF-6激活、CHOP表达增加而诱导细胞凋亡。此外, 抑制内质网应激可以减少LPS诱导的肺部炎症^[14], 并参与许多肺疾病的过程。

3 肺肿瘤与ERS

3.1 肺肿瘤在自然病程下存在ERS

ERS可在肿瘤中激活, 当原发性乳腺癌细胞中上游原始ATF 6被激活时, 下游的CHOP和内质网分子伴侣葡萄糖调节蛋白78(glucose regulate protein 78, GRP78)、葡萄糖调节蛋白94(glucose regulate protein 94, GRP94)、葡萄糖调节蛋白170(glucose regulate protein 170, GRP170)也被激活^[15], 以上结果也同时在肝癌^[16]、胃癌^[17]、食管腺癌^[18]、黑素瘤^[19]中发现。

肺肿瘤细胞因其高表达及高复制性, 发展过程中需要大量氧气和血液供应, 远超过机体的代偿极限。细胞中短时间内大量合成的蛋白无法组配、装运, 导致未折叠蛋白和错误折叠蛋白增多, 诱发UPR。起初, UPR对细胞是一种适应机制, 但随着未折叠蛋白的不断增多, UPR将促进细胞凋亡。肿瘤的进展是由于其遗传改变了正常细胞的驱动周期, 正常细胞或过速生长, 或生长停滞, 或衰老控制逐渐转变为恶性状态的多步骤过程, 并且在这一过程中, 抑制了促凋亡信号^[20]。迅速增殖的癌细胞需要增加内质网的活性, 以促进蛋白折叠、装配和膜分泌蛋白的运输, 从而导致ERS。肿瘤的快速生长特性决定了肿瘤细胞处于高代谢状态, 肿瘤细胞只有加快蛋白质的合成和加工速度才能够满足肿瘤快速生长的需求, 因此, 可以推断肿瘤的生长速度在一定程度上受制于肿瘤细胞内质网的“工作效率”。由于恶性肿瘤生长速度快, 肿瘤细胞内质网处于高负荷工作状态, 加上肿瘤细胞一般处于相对缺氧环境, 因此, 肿瘤细胞通常处于持续的ERS状态^[21]。

3.2 肺肿瘤的预后与ERS诱导性凋亡的关系

肺肿瘤的预后与肿瘤细胞的生长、侵袭和转移密切相关。UPR能使肿瘤细胞适应肿瘤中的缺氧环境, 能在低氧环境下生存, 这无疑将使病情恶

化, 不利于预后。但是肿瘤细胞的缺血、缺氧, 将导致ERS, ERS的强度与肿瘤细胞的命运和肿瘤的预后密切相关, 适当强度的ERS不但对肿瘤的生长和转移具有促进作用, 而且有利于提高肿瘤细胞对化学治疗和放射治疗的耐受能力^[22], 而超出细胞耐受程度过于强烈的ERS则促进肿瘤细胞凋亡。因此, 可通过外源性干预措施诱导或加重肿瘤细胞的ERS反应, 只要ERS达到一定的强度并持续足够的时间, 就能够促进细胞凋亡, 从而达到治疗肿瘤的目的^[23]。

3.3 ERS 诱导性凋亡在肺肿瘤治疗中的意义

许多抗肿瘤药物都可通过加重过度ERS促进细胞凋亡而发挥作用。研究^[24]发现: 百草枯可通过ERS诱导肺肿瘤细胞凋亡, 然而治疗上使用一种百草枯的拮抗剂TUDCA(tauro-urso-deoxy-cholate), 可使肺肿瘤细胞免于接触百草枯引起的死亡。这些结果表明百草枯在ERS相关的分子事件中可伴有毒性。通过化学分子伴侣TUDCA的治疗, 可明显减少百草枯通过ERS诱导的肺肿瘤细胞凋亡。

Peng等^[9]第一次评估了X盒结合蛋白1(X-box binding protein 1, XBP1)基因多态性在铂治疗晚期非小细胞肺癌(non-small cell lung cancer, NSCLC)疗效中的影响。XBP1也是ERS反应的一个关键转录因子, 是维持细胞稳态所必需的。研究人员通过沉默XBP1和过表达XBP1基因以评价在这两种情况下肺肿瘤细胞对铂治疗的敏感性, 最后发现过表达XBP1基因能明显提高肺肿瘤细胞对铂的敏感性。

Li等^[25]发现: 盐霉素通过ERS诱导人类NSCLC细胞凋亡。盐霉素的刺激通过ATF4-DDIT3/CHOP-TRiB3-AKT1-MTOR^[25]轴介导凋亡, 同时盐霉素能引发更多的A549细胞(肺腺癌细胞)凋亡, 表明其敏感性最好。Choi等^[27]证实木犀草素(luteolin)通过ERS诱导H460细胞(大细胞肺癌细胞)凋亡。

十四烷基硫代乙酸(tetra-decylthioacetic acid, TTA)通过磷酸化eIF2a(eukaryotic initiation factor 2a), 上调ATF4, 增加CHOP表达诱导ERS, 对抗多种肿瘤细胞的生长^[26]。木犀草素可激活caspase-12, 基因沉默caspase-12可减少木犀草素诱导的肺肿瘤细胞凋亡。木犀草素还诱导CHOP、GRP78和GRP94的表达, 以及eIF2a磷酸化和ATF6a的剪切, 基因敲除CHOP或者应用内质网应激抑制剂苯基丁酸可减轻木犀草素诱导的细胞凋亡^[27]。

肿瘤细胞的耐药性一直是肿瘤治疗过程中的

一大挑战, GRP78表达上调的细胞可耐受多种药物, 包括化学毒性、抗DNA损伤和抗血管生成等药物。组蛋白去乙酰化酶(histone deacetylase, HDAC)抑制剂特异性地诱导GRP78表达而不伴随诱导ERS反应, HDAC抑制剂通过调节导致细胞生长停滞、增加分化和凋亡, 代表了一类具有极大的治疗潜力的新类抗癌化合物^[28]。然而即便是HDAC这样的药物, 也未能很好解决细胞耐药性的问题^[29]。虽然科研人员在通过ERS途径研发抗肿瘤药物的耐药性方面取得了一些成果^[9], 如上调XBP1的表达, 以提高NSCLC对铂的敏感性, 但如何有效解决肿瘤细胞耐药性的难题, 依然需要进一步研究。

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