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雌激素对人脐静脉内皮细胞HSP27表达的影响

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[摘要] 目的: 观察人脐静脉内皮细胞(human umbilical vein endothelial cell, HUVEC)中热休克蛋白27(HSP27)表达在雌激素(estrogen, E)诱导下的改变。方法: 分别用 10^{-9} M、 10^{-8} M、 10^{-7} M雌二醇(estradiol, E₂)以及 10^{-6} M雌激素受体拮抗剂他莫昔芬(tamoxifen)处理HUVEC后, 采用Western blot法和RT-PCR法检测HUVEC中HSP27蛋白和mRNA的表达水平。结果: 与对照组相比, 无论是蛋白水平还是mRNA水平, 10^{-9} mol/L E₂对HUVEC中HSP27表达没有明显影响; 10^{-8} 、 10^{-7} mol/L E₂诱导HUVEC中HSP27表达逐渐增加($P < 0.05$); 而HUVEC与 10^{-6} M他莫昔芬、 10^{-7} M雌二醇共同孵育, 其HSP27水平和单纯 10^{-7} M雌二醇处理相比明显减少($P < 0.05$)。结论: 外源性E₂能诱导HUVEC中HSP27的表达, 呈剂量依赖性。他莫昔芬能阻断E₂的这种上调HSP27的作用, 提示雌激素诱导内皮细胞HSP27的表达依赖ER。

[关键词] 雌激素; 人脐静脉内皮细胞; 热休克蛋白27

Effects of estrogen on the expression of HSP27 in human umbilical vein endothelial cells

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Abstract **Objective:** To investigate the change of the expression of HSP27 in human umbilical vein endothelial cells (HUVECs) induced by estrogen. **Methods:** After incubated with different concentrations of estradiol (10^{-9} mol/L, 10^{-8} mol/L, 10^{-7} mol/L, respectively) and 10^{-6} mol/L tamoxifen (an antagonist of estrogen receptor), the expression of HSP27 protein and mRNA in HUVEC were detected by Western blot and RT-PCR, respectively.

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Results: Compared with the control group, the expression of HSP27 mRNA and protein in HUVEC were significantly up-regulated by E_2 ($P < 0.05$) (10^{-8} , 10^{-7} mol/L E_2); however, the effect that estradiol increase the expression of HSP27 were inhibited obviously by 10^{-6} mol/L tamoxifen ($P < 0.05$). **Conclusion:** The expression of HSP27 in HUVEC was increased significantly by E_2 in a dose-dependent manner. Tamoxifen can inhibit these effects of E_2 . The data of the studies suggested that the expression of HSP27 in endothelial cells that induced by estrogen is dependent on estrogen receptors.

Key words estrogen; human umbilical vein endothelial cells; heat shock protein 27

血管内皮是血管壁内膜上的一层扁平上皮细胞,起着血管壁的屏障作用,具有多种重要生理功能。动脉粥样硬化(atherosclerosis, AS)发病的早期病变主要发生在血管内膜。维持血管内皮细胞的完整性以及内皮功能是防治动脉粥样硬化的关键环节。雌激素(estrogen, E)能够保护内皮功能,从而起到抗动脉粥样硬化的作用。热休克蛋白27(heat shock protein 27, HSP27)属于小分子量热休克蛋白家族(sHSP),过去研究较多的是其在肿瘤发病中的作用。近几年有临床和动物实验指出HSP27具有动脉保护作用,是一种动脉粥样硬化的生物学标志^[1-2],并且与雌激素具有相关性^[3]。我们推测HSP27的这种抗AS作用可能是通过增强雌激素的内皮保护作用完成的。本研究通过不同浓度雌二醇(estradiol, E_2)及雌激素受体拮抗剂他莫昔芬(tamoxifen)处理人脐静脉内皮细胞(human umbilical vein endothelial cell, HUVEC)来观察HSP27表达的改变,以期为下一步从内皮细胞的角度探讨HSP27对雌激素的抗AS作用的影响提供实验基础,为雌激素保护心血管系统的机制提供依据。

1 材料与方 法

1.1 材 料

HUVECs细胞株(中科院上海细胞生物学研究所); DMEM培养基(dulbecco's modified eagle medium, DMEM)培养基(Gibco公司); 胎牛血清(杭州四季青生物研究所); 雌二醇(Sigma公司); tamoxifen (ENZO公司); 兔抗人HSP27抗体(ABZOOM公司); HSP27、GAPDH引物(长沙艾杰生物技术有限公司); BCA (bicinchoninic acid)蛋白定量试剂盒(Hyclone-Pierce公司); 其他相关试剂均为进口或国产分析纯。

1.2 方 法

1.2.1 细胞培养

将HUVEC接种到含有10%胎牛血清的DMEM

双抗培养液中,在37℃、5% CO₂培养箱中静置培养,每2~3 d更换培养基,待细胞长满培养瓶表面,使用胰蛋白酶对细胞进行消化传代。

1.2.2 实验分组

1)空白对照组:为无血清培养基组; 2) E_2 组:加入无血清培养基后,再分别加入 10^{-9} 、 10^{-8} 、 10^{-7} M E_2 处理; 3) E_2 + tamoxifen组:在给予 10^{-7} M E_2 处理前,先给予 10^{-6} M tamoxifen预处理30 min。各组作用时间为24 h。

1.2.3 细胞总蛋白提取和免疫印迹

收集并裂解上述培养24 h HUVECs,提取蛋白并测定浓度(用BCA法进行蛋白定量)。以等量蛋白上样进行12%十二烷基硫酸钠聚丙烯酰胺凝胶电泳(sodium dodecyl sulfate polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis, SDS-PAGE)后电转移至聚偏氟乙烯(polyvinylidene difluoride, PVDF)膜,5%脱脂牛奶4℃封闭过夜,按抗体说明书稀释后加入兔抗人HSP27一抗,4℃孵育过夜,加入辣根过氧化物酶标记的羊抗兔IgG二抗(1:5 000稀释),4℃孵育2 h, TBST缓冲液(Tris-buffered saline and 0.1% Tween, TBST)洗涤后,进行显色,胶片曝光,结果用Lab Works3.0软件进行分析,以标准浓度的 β -actin作内参照。

1.2.4 细胞总 RNA 的提取和 RT-PCR

用TRIzol试剂提取细胞总RNA,溶于无Rnase水中。取总RNA 2 μ g,用逆转录试剂盒合成cDNA,再取逆转录产物1.0 μ L进行PCR循环。HSP27上游引物5'-CCAGAGCAGAGTCAGCCAGCAT-3',下游引物5'-CGAAGGTGACTGGGATGGTGA-3',扩增片段长度为576 bp。PCR反应条件为:95℃ 5 min预变性,95℃ 30 s变性,59℃ 30 s退火,72℃ 40 s延伸,35个循环,72℃ 10 min继续延伸。内参照采用甘油醛-3-磷酸脱氢酶(glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase, GAPDH),其引物序列为:上游引物5'-CAAGGTCATCCATGACAACCTTTG-3',下游引物5'-GTCCACCACCCTGTTGCTGTAG-3',扩增片段长度为496 bp。PCR反应条件为:94℃ 3 min预变性,94℃ 30 s变性,58℃ 30 s退火,72℃ 45 s

延伸, 35个循环, 72 °C 10 min继续延伸。反应结束后, 取RT-PCR产物在1.2%的琼脂糖凝胶中电泳。电泳条带采用UVP型凝胶图像分析系统做积分吸光度测定和分析。

1.3 统计学处理

实验所得数据采用均数±标准差($\bar{x}\pm s$)表示, 采用 t 检验及方差分析的统计学方法, 用SPSS11.0统计软件进行分析, $P<0.05$ 为差异有显著性意义。

2 结果

2.1 E₂对HUVEC中HSP27蛋白表达的影响

如图1所示, 与对照组相比, 10^{-9} M E₂

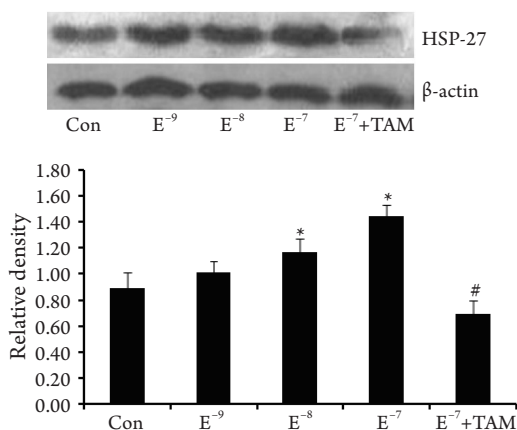


图1 雌二醇诱导人脐静脉内皮细胞的HSP27蛋白表达
Figure 1 The expression of HSP27 protein in HUVEC induced by estradiol. *, $P<0.05$ vs. control; #, $P<0.05$ vs 10^{-7} M E₂

3 讨论

一直以来, 心血管疾病的发病率和死亡率都居高不下。动脉粥样硬化是多种心血管疾病的发病基础, 而血管内皮功能障碍是促发动脉粥样硬化的重要始动因素。内皮细胞是血管壁的屏障, 具有调节血管活性、保持血流通畅、调节物质交换等重要生理功能。雌激素能通过雌激素受体(ER)促进内皮细胞增殖和调节内皮细胞功能, 还能通过激活PI3K/Akt途径来调节NO, PGI₂和ET-1的表达^[4], 调节血管活性。另外, 雌激素可抑制葡萄糖诱导的内皮细胞内质网应激和超氧阴离子的产生, 从而降低内皮细胞的氧化应激性损伤^[5], 起到血管保护作用, 是一种冠心病的保护

对HUVEC的HSP27蛋白表达没有明显影响; 10^{-8} 、 10^{-7} M E₂诱导HUVEC表达HSP27逐渐增加($P<0.05$); 而HUVEC与 10^{-6} M他莫昔芬和 10^{-7} M雌二醇共同孵育, HSP27表达较单纯 10^{-7} M雌二醇处理显著减少($P<0.05$)。

2.2 E₂对HUVEC中HSP27 mRNA表达的影响

如图2所示, 不同浓度E₂处理HUVEC, 其HSP27 mRNA表达的改变与蛋白水平类似。与对照组相比, 10^{-9} M E₂对HSP27 mRNA表达没有明显影响; 10^{-8} 、 10^{-7} M E₂诱导HUVEC表达HSP27 mRNA表达逐渐增加($P<0.05$); 而 10^{-6} M他莫昔芬和 10^{-7} M雌二醇同时处理HUVEC, HSP27 mRNA水平较单纯 10^{-7} M雌二醇处理明显减少($P<0.05$)。

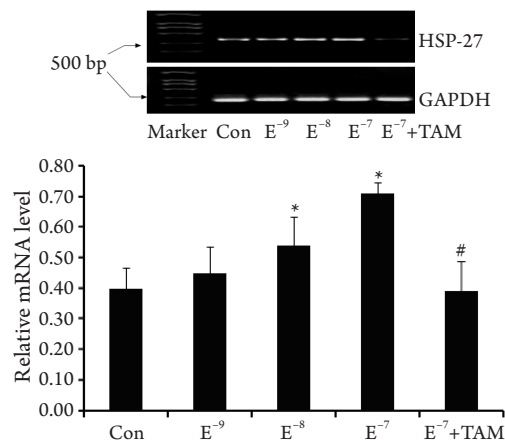


图2 雌二醇诱导人脐静脉内皮细胞的HSP27 mRNA表达
Figure 2 The expression of HSP27 mRNA in HUVEC induced by estradiol. *, $P<0.05$ vs control; #, $P<0.05$ vs 10^{-7} mol/L E₂

因素。然而, 随机临床试验(randomized controlled trial, RCT), 如妇女健康研究(Women's Health Initiative, WHI)和心脏与雌激素/黄体酮替代治疗研究(The Heart and Estrogen Replacement Study, HERS), 显示激素替代疗法的血管益处少, 而且绝经后激素治疗(menopausal hormone therapy, MHT)甚至导致乳腺和子宫的不良事件^[6-8]。尽管如此, 最近仍有临床试验支持卵巢类固醇激素在血管系统中的有利影响^[9]。这可能与雌激素开始替代治疗的时间^[10]、剂量以及给药途径^[11]有关。这使更多关于雌激素对于心血管作用的研究开始转向新的可能机制和途径。

热休克蛋白27(HSP27)是一种重要的分子伴侣, 属于sHSP, 具有调节细胞运动、抑制细胞凋

亡、抗氧化应激以及抗炎等作用,能使细胞在各种应激原的作用下免受损伤。有研究表明,HSP27具有保护血管壁的作用,动脉粥样硬化患者血清HSP27水平较正常人低^[1-2],增加血清HSP27水平既能减少新动脉粥样硬化病变的形成,又可增强斑块的稳定性^[12]。Rayner等^[13]研究发现,动脉粥样硬化早期过表达HSP27可明显减少病变区域,并且HSP27的这种保护作用只存在于雌性鼠,具有性别差异。然而,HSP27过表达的持续动脉保护作用与性别无关^[14]。在慢性病变中,HSP27过表达可减少胆固醇蓄积,从而减少泡沫细胞数量,使病变区域缩小^[15],这提示HSP27的慢性调控在动脉保护作用中具有潜在临床作用。有研究表明HSP27重组体(rHSP27)能降低血清胆固醇水平^[16]和清道夫受体-A(scavenger receptor-A, SR-A)水平^[17],减少泡沫细胞的形成,从而有望成为抑制动脉粥样硬化进展的新治疗模式。

雌激素可诱导多种细胞表达HSP27,如:血小板^[18]、乳腺以及子宫内膜肿瘤细胞^[19],雌激素与HSP27的这种相互作用与雌激素受体(ER)有关^[2,20]。激活ER β 可增加内源性HSP27水平,同时加强雌激素对血管壁的保护作用,并且对乳腺和子宫没有影响^[21]。雌激素可诱导HSP27短暂磷酸化^[22-23]。磷酸化的HSP27可通过稳定内皮细胞和平滑肌细胞肌动蛋白细胞骨架来防止血管病变^[24]。雌激素还可促进巨噬细胞分泌释放HSP27^[3,14],并通过与SR-A的相互作用抑制胆固醇的摄取^[25-26],从而导致泡沫细胞形成减少。此外,HSP27还具有减少促炎因子分泌和抑制巨噬细胞黏附、迁移的作用,这提示HSP27从多方面对抗动脉粥样硬化的发展。动物实验指出HSP27的动脉保护作用依赖于雌激素^[3]。HSP27的这种抗动脉粥样硬化作用是否是通过提高雌激素的内皮保护作用而完成的呢?内皮细胞中HSP27表达的调节是否与雌激素有关?本实验E₂浓度模拟人体生理浓度(10⁻⁸ M),结果显示内皮细胞在接近生理浓度的E₂诱导下HSP27表达增加,并且呈现出剂量依赖性,由此推断生理浓度E₂即可能通过上调HSP27表达发挥抗动脉粥样硬化作用。他莫昔芬能阻断E₂上调HSP27的作用,并且HSP27 mRNA的降低水平较蛋白明显,这是因为转录和翻译是两个不同的阶段,而真核基因表达的转录和翻译发生的时间和位点存在时空间隔,蛋白表达的改变具有滞后性。这提示雌激素诱导内皮细胞HSP27的表达依赖ER,其调节机制可能发生在转录阶段。本研究结果为探讨雌激素保护心

血管系统的机制提供依据,至于HSP27对雌激素内皮保护作用是否有影响,我们将进一步研究。

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