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· 论著 ·

硼替佐米联用 obatoclax 协同诱导人急性B淋巴细胞白血病细胞株 Nalm-6 细胞凋亡

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[摘要] 目的 探讨硼替佐米分别与3种Bcl-2抑制剂(obatoclax、AT-101、ABT-199)联用诱导人急性B淋巴细胞株Nalm-6细胞凋亡的协同作用。方法 应用MTT法分别检测3种Bcl-2抑制剂单用或联用硼替佐米作用于Nalm-6细胞48 h后的细胞活力。通过流式细胞术和蛋白质印迹分析分别检测不同药物单独或联合作用于Nalm-6细胞后的细胞凋亡情况及Bcl-2家族蛋白、泛素、微管相关蛋白1轻链3B(LC3B)、p62、免疫球蛋白结合蛋白(Bip)、磷酸化p38、磷酸化JNK、C/EBP同源蛋白(CHOP)等蛋白的表达情况。同时利用qRT-PCR检测硼替佐米和obatoclax联用后细胞的内质网应激反应关键基因Bip、CHOP、活化转录因子(ATF)4、ATF6、肌醇需求酶1α(IRE1α)、X-盒结合蛋白1(XBP1)的表达水平。最后通过MTT和流式细胞术检测内质网应激反应抑制剂牛磺熊去氧胆酸(TUDCA)是否可以逆转两药联用诱导的细胞凋亡。结果 硼替佐米和3种Bcl-2抑制剂单用均可降低Nalm-6细胞的存活率。3组药物联用实验组中,仅有obatoclax+硼替佐米表现出协同细胞毒性作用,其余两组并无此现象。Obatoclax通过增加LC3B-II、p62蛋白的表达水平抑制Nalm-6细胞的自噬活性。与单药相比,硼替佐米和obatoclax联用后泛素化蛋白的表达显著上调。硼替佐米联用obatoclax可同时抑制自噬和泛素蛋白酶体活性,造成大量蛋白蓄积,进而激活内质网应激反应,最终诱导Nalm-6细胞凋亡。内质网应激抑制剂TUDCA可削弱硼替佐米和obatoclax联用诱导的细胞凋亡。结论 硼替佐米联用obatoclax可同时抑制自噬和蛋白酶体活性,并激活内质网应激反应协同诱导人急性B淋巴细胞白血病细胞凋亡。

[关键词] 急性B淋巴细胞白血病; 硼替佐米; obatoclax; 协同作用; 自噬; 内质网应激

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Synergistic cytotoxic effect of bortezomib in combination with obatoclax on human acute B lymphoblastic leukemia cell line Nalm-6

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[Abstract] **Objective** To explore whether the combination of bortezomib and Bcl-2 inhibitor (obatoclax, AT-101, ABT-199) can synergistically induce the apoptosis of human acute B lymphoblastic leukemia cell line Nalm-6. **Methods** MTT assay was used to evaluate cell viability of Nalm-6 cells in response to Bcl-2 inhibitor alone or combined treatment for 48 h. Apoptosis was examined by flow cytometry and the expression of Bcl-2 family proteins, ubiquitin, microtubule-associated protein 1 light chain 3B (LC3B), p62, binding immunoglobulin protein (Bip), phosphorylated p38 (p-p38), phosphorylated c-Jun N-terminal kinase (p-JNK), and C/EBP homologous protein (CHOP) was detected by Western blotting after drug alone or combined treatment. The mRNA levels of critical factors of endoplasmic reticulum stress (ERS)

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response, including *Bip*, *CHOP*, activating transcription factor (*ATF*) 4, *ATF6*, inositol-requiring enzyme 1 α (*IRE1* α) and X-box binding protein 1 (*XBPI*) were measured by qRT-PCR. Finally, MTT and flow cytometry were used to determine whether tauroursodeoxycholate acid (TUDCA, an ERS inhibitor) could reverse the apoptosis induced by the combination of the two drugs. **Results** The application of bortezomib, obatoclax, AT-101 and ABT-199 alone reduced the viability of Nalm-6 cells. Obatoclax potentiated the cytotoxicity of Nalm-6 cells in response to bortezomib, but not including AT-101 or ABT-199. Obatoclax blocked autophagy flux by upregulating the protein expression of LC3B-II and p62. The accumulation of ubiquitin protein was observed after use of bortezomib or obatoclax alone, but the protein significantly increased after two drug combination. Bortezomib combined with obatoclax caused the dual blockade of autophagy and proteasome and a large amount of protein accumulation, leading to activated ERS, finally to cell apoptosis. TUDCA reduced the apoptosis induced by two drug combination. **Conclusion** Bortezomib in combination with obatoclax can simultaneously inhibit autophagy and protease activity, triggering ERS, finally inducing human acute B lymphoblastic leukemia cell apoptosis.

[Key words] acute B lymphoblastic leukemia; bortezomib; obatoclax; synergy; autophagy; endoplasmic reticulum stress

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急性淋巴细胞白血病 (acute lymphoblastic leukemia, ALL) 是一种 T、B 淋巴细胞在骨髓、血液或组织中异常增殖和蓄积的恶性血液肿瘤。依据血液表型的特点,一般分为 T-ALL 和 B-ALL 2 种类型,其中 B-ALL 占 80%~85%^[1]。儿童和成人均可发生 ALL,其中 2~5 岁儿童是高发对象^[2-3]。目前儿童治愈率已达 90%,但成人治愈率还不到 40%^[4-5],且难治性/复发 ALL 仍然存在预后不佳的问题。对于难治性/复发 ALL,儿童 5 年生存率为 (21.0±1.8) %,成人不到 7%^[6-7]。因此,开发新治疗策略尽快改善难治性/复发 ALL 预后仍然是国内外研究的热点。

作为第 1 代蛋白酶体抑制剂,硼替佐米是一种可逆性的二肽基硼酸盐类似物,已被美国 FDA 批准用于治疗多发性骨髓瘤 (2003 年) 和套细胞淋巴瘤 (2006 年)^[8]。近年,硼替佐米被报道可作为 ALL 治疗的新选择^[2]。尽管硼替佐米在 ALL 的临床前研究中显示了良好的效果^[9-11],但是在对 ALL 患者的临床治疗中,单独使用硼替佐米的效果仍欠佳^[12]。有临床前研究表明,硼替佐米联用其他一些化学治疗药物如地塞米松、天冬酰胺酶、长春新碱、多柔比星、阿糖胞苷,对急性白血病有良好的协同效果^[13],但具体机制仍在研究中。

泛素-蛋白酶体通路 (ubiquitin-proteasome pathway, UPP) 负责约 80% 蛋白的降解,涉及细胞内多项重要的生理功能,特别是对细胞增殖和凋亡的调控。研究表明,硼替佐米可调控 p53、p21^{Cip1}、p27^{Kip1}、Bax 和 I κ B 等细胞周期和凋亡蛋白^[14-18]。硼替佐米的抗肿瘤机制是通过抑制 26S

蛋白酶体活性阻断 UPP^[19-20]。

诱导细胞凋亡是抗肿瘤药物的一种常规治疗策略^[21]。*Bcl-2* 是研究最早的与细胞凋亡相关的—类原癌基因。*Bcl-2* 家族蛋白主要分为抗凋亡蛋白 [*Bcl-2*、*Bcl-xL*、*Bcl-w* 和髓细胞白血病因子 1 (myeloid cell leukemia 1, *Mcl-1*) 等] 和促凋亡蛋白 (*Bax*、*Bak*、*Bok* 和 *Bim* 等),通过调节抗/促凋亡蛋白的表达水平调控细胞凋亡。此外,越来越多的资料表明硼替佐米可通过激活 *Bcl-2* 家族促凋亡蛋白的表达发挥抗肿瘤活性,如 *BH3-only*、*Noxa*、*Puma* 和 *Bim*^[22-23]。但也有研究表明,某些抗凋亡蛋白如 *Mcl-1* 的蓄积可降低肿瘤细胞对硼替佐米的敏感性,从而产生耐药。目前,*Bcl-2* 抑制剂 obatoclax 联合硼替佐米治疗难治性/复发套细胞淋巴瘤的研究正在开展 I / II 期临床试验^[18]。已有证据表明,硼替佐米联合多种化学治疗药物疗效更佳^[24-25]。但是,硼替佐米联合 *Bcl-2* 抑制剂在急性 B 淋巴细胞白血病细胞上的研究甚少,两者是否具有协同细胞毒性作用尚不清楚。因此,本研究拟探究硼替佐米分别联用 3 种 *Bcl-2* 抑制剂 (obatoclax、AT-101、ABT-199) 是否协同诱导人急性 B 淋巴细胞白血病细胞株 Nalm-6 细胞凋亡。

1 材料和方法

1.1 药物 地塞米松、牛磺熊去氧胆酸 (tauroursodeoxycholate acid, TUDCA) 和 3 种 *Bcl-2* 抑制剂 (obatoclax、AT-101、ABT-199) 均购于美国 Selleck Chemicals 公司,其他试剂购于美国 Sigma-Aldrich 公司。

1.2 细胞株来源与培养 人急性 B 淋巴细胞白血

病细胞株 Nalm-6 由南方医科大学南方医院血液科提供。细胞培养条件: 37 °C、5% CO₂ 培养箱。培养液配制: 450 mL RPMI 1640 培养液(美国 Invitrogen 公司) + 50 mL FBS(美国 Invitrogen 公司) + 5 mL 青/链霉素(美国 Invitrogen 公司)。

1.3 细胞活力实验 用 MTT 比色法检测药物处理后细胞的存活率。Nalm-6 细胞接种过夜后加入不同浓度的药物持续培养 48 h, 加入终浓度为 0.5 mg/mL 的 MTT 共孵育 4 h。用 GENios Pro 型酶标仪(美国 Tecan 公司)在 570 nm 波长处测定光密度(D)值。细胞存活率计算公式为: 细胞存活率(%) = (药物组 D 值 - 空白组 D 值) / (未加药物组 D 值 - 空白组 D 值) × 100%。细胞抑制率(%) = 100% - 细胞存活率(%)。用 GraphPad Prism 5.0 软件和 CompuSyn 药物联合指数分析软件分别计算 IC₅₀ 和药物联用指数(combination index, CI)。

1.4 Annexin V - FITC 染色检测细胞凋亡 不同浓度的药物单独或联合作用于 Nalm-6 细胞 48 h 后停止培养, 收集细胞于离心管中, 用预冷的 PBS 重悬洗 2 次。按照 Annexin V - FITC 细胞凋亡检测试剂盒(日本同仁化学研究所)操作流程, 加入 Annexin V - FITC 后避光室温孵育 15 min。用流式细胞仪(BD FACSCanto II)检测细胞凋亡情况。同时用地塞米松作为细胞凋亡阳性对照药物, 浓度为 180 μmol/L。

1.5 蛋白质印迹分析 不同浓度的药物作用于 Nalm-6 细胞相应时间后, 用 PBS 洗 2 次并加入含蛋白酶体/磷酸酶抑制剂(美国 Merck 公司)的 RIPA 裂解液。等量的蛋白行 SDS-PAGE, 然后转至 PVDF 膜(美国 Roche 公司)。所有一抗 4 °C 孵育至少 12 h, 二抗室温孵育 1 h。化学发光液和 X-线胶片分别购于美国 CST 公司和日本富士胶卷公司。抗体来源: Mcl-1 (#5453)、Bcl-2 (#2870)、Bcl-xL (#2764)、微管相关蛋白 1 轻链 3B(microtubule-associated protein 1 light chain 3B, LC3B; #2775)、p62 (#8025)、泛素(#3936)、免疫球蛋白结合蛋白(binding immunoglobulin protein, Bip; #3177S)、磷酸化 p38(phosphorylated p38, p-p38; #9212)、磷酸化 JNK(phosphorylated JNK, p-JNK; #9251)、C/EBP 同源蛋白(C/EBP homologous protein, CHOP; #5554)、内参蛋白

β-actin (#4970) 均购于美国 CST 公司, 内参蛋白黏着斑蛋白(vinculin, #036M4797V)购于美国 Sigma-Aldrich 公司, 内参蛋白 GAPDH (#25778) 购于美国 Santa Cruz 公司。

1.6 qRT-PCR 检测 硼替佐米和 obatoclax 的药物浓度分别为 2 nmol/L、0.3 μmol/L。加入 1 mL TRIzol(美国 Invitrogen 公司)裂解液提取 RNA; 按照 PrimeScript 反转录试剂盒(日本 TaKaRa 公司)说明书合成 cDNA; 利用 SYBR Select 预混液(美国 Applied Biosystems 公司)标记, 放入荧光定量 PCR 仪(7500 型, 美国 ABI 公司)中反应。反应条件: 95 °C 变性 15 s(1 个循环), 退火/延伸 60 °C 60 s(40 个循环)。采用 2^{-ΔΔCt} 法分析目的基因的相对表达水平。引物序列来源于 qPrimerDepot 数据库, 见表 1。

表 1 引物序列

Tab 1 Primer sequences of genes

Gene	Primer sequence (5'-3')
Bip	Forward: TGT TCA ACC AAT TAT CAG CAA ACT C Reverse: TTC TGC TGT ATC CTC TTC ACC AGT
CHOP	Forward: AGA ACC AGG AAA CGG AAA CAG A Reverse: TCT CCT TCA TGC GCT GCT TT
ATF4	Forward: GTT CTC CAG CGA CAA GGC TA Reverse: ATC CTG CTT GCT GTT GTT GG
ATF6	Forward: TCC ACC TCC TTG TCA GCC CCT Reverse: GCC CTG TTC CAG AGC ACC CTG A
IRE1α	Forward: GCA AGC TGA CGC CCA CTC TGT Reverse: ACT TGA CGT CCG TGC TGG GC
sXBP1	Forward: CTG AGT CCG AAT CAG GTG CAG Reverse: ATC CAT GGG GAG ATG TTC TGG
usXBP1	Forward: CAG CAC TCA GAC TAC GTG CA Reverse: ATC CAT GGG GAG ATG TTC TGG
Total XBP1	Forward: GCA CCT GAG CCC CGA GGA GA Reverse: TCA TTC CCC TTG GCT TCC GCC
β-actin	Forward: AGC ACT GTG TTG GCG TAC AG Reverse: CTC TTC CAG CCT TCC TTC CT

Bip: Binding immunoglobulin protein; CHOP: C/EBP homologous protein; ATF: Activating transcription factor; IRE1α: Inositol-requiring enzyme 1α; sXBP1: Splicing X-box binding protein 1; usXBP1: Un-splicing X-box binding protein 1; XBP1: X-box binding protein 1

1.7 统计学处理 应用 GraphPad Prism 5.0 软件进行统计学分析。各实验数据均重复多次, 结果以 $\bar{x} \pm s$ 表示, 采用方差分析和 Tukey's t 检验进行比较。检验水准(α)为 0.05。

2 结 果

2.1 硼替佐米抑制了Nalm-6细胞的活力 不同浓度的硼替佐米与Nalm-6细胞共孵育48 h后,用MTT法检测细胞活力,结果显示随着硼替佐米浓度的增加,Nalm-6细胞的活力逐渐降低,硼替佐米的 IC_{50} 为(4.5±0.3)nmol/L(图1)。

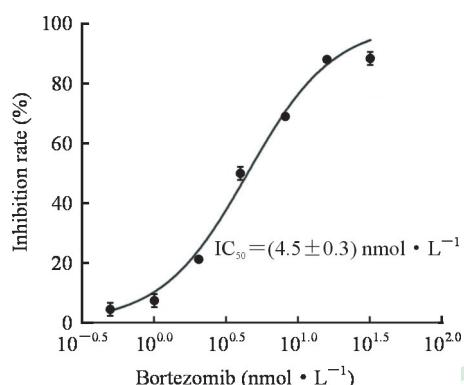


图1 硼替佐米对人急性B淋巴细胞白血病细胞株Nalm-6的毒性作用

Fig 1 Cytotoxic effect of bortezomib on human acute B lymphoblastic leukemia cell line Nalm-6

The IC_{50} value was calculated by GraphPad Prism 5.0 software.
 IC_{50} : Half inhibition concentration. $n=3$, $\bar{x} \pm s$

2.2 硼替佐米单独处理Nalm-6细胞引起抗凋亡蛋白的蓄积 4 nmol/L硼替佐米处理Nalm-6细胞3 h后,抗凋亡蛋白Mcl-1的蓄积明显增加,Bcl-2轻微上升,Bcl-xL变化不明显(图2)。

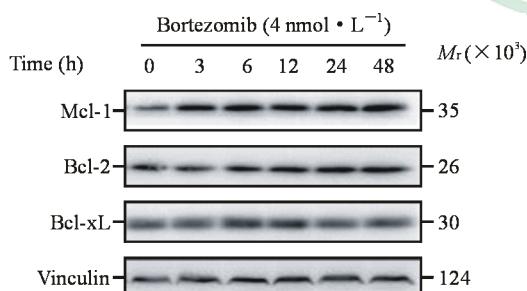


图2 硼替佐米单独处理人急性B淋巴细胞白血病细胞株Nalm-6引起抗凋亡蛋白的蓄积

Fig 2 Accumulation of anti-apoptotic proteins by bortezomib in human acute B lymphoblastic leukemia cell line Nalm-6

Mcl-1: Myeloid cell leukemia 1; Bcl-2: B-cell lymphoma 2;
Bcl-xL: B-cell lymphoma-extra large

2.3 硼替佐米与obatoclax联用对Nalm-6细胞具有协同细胞毒性作用 不同浓度的Bcl-2抑制剂与Nalm-6细胞共孵育48 h,用MTT法检测细胞的存活率。结果显示,Nalm-6细胞的活力随药物剂量

的增加而降低;根据CompuSyn软件计算得出,硼替佐米与obatoclax联用的CI<1,提示两药联用有协同作用;而AT-101、ABT-199与硼替佐米联用的CI基本上均>1,提示两药联用没有协同作用(图3A、3B)。单用硼替佐米或obatoclax均能诱导Nalm-6细胞凋亡,联用后凋亡细胞数明显上升(P 均<0.01,图3C)。

2.4 Obatoclax抑制Nalm-6细胞的自噬活性 3种Bcl-2抑制剂(obatoclax、AT-101、ABT-199)均可上调Nalm-6细胞中自噬标志蛋白LC3B-II的表达,而p62蛋白的蓄积仅在obatoclax作用的细胞中观察到(图4A)。结果表明obatoclax可下调Nalm-6细胞的自噬活性,ABT-199、AT-101则能够提高自噬活性。同时,obatoclax单用可引起泛素化蛋白的蓄积,与硼替佐米联用后泛素化蛋白蓄积显著增加(图4B)。

2.5 硼替佐米联用obatoclax诱导内质网应激反应并启动末端凋亡通路 Bip是内质网应激反应的标志蛋白,obatoclax单独作用Nalm-6细胞24 h后,Bip表达轻微上升,硼替佐米单独作用对Bip并无影响,但是硼替佐米与obatoclax联用后Bip表达明显升高,而硼替佐米与AT-101或ABT-199联用并未观察到此现象。p-JNK可启动细胞凋亡,obatoclax单用可引起JNK磷酸化水平增高,联用硼替佐米后JNK磷酸化水平增高更为明显;而AT-101、ABT-199单用或与硼替佐米联用后JNK磷酸化水平变化不明显。相反,这几种药物单用或联用均未能改变p38磷酸化水平。见图5A。

硼替佐米和obatoclax联合处理Nalm-6细胞后,qRT-PCR检测发现Bip、CHOP、活化转录因子(activating transcription factor, ATF4)、ATF6、肌醇需求酶1α(inositol-requiring enzyme 1α, IRE1α)和剪接型/非剪接型X-盒结合蛋白1(splicing/unsplicing X-box binding protein 1, s/usXBPI)等内质网应激反应关键基因的mRNA表达水平均升高(图5B),说明内质网应激被激活。未受刺激的细胞中基本不表达CHOP,其蛋白表达水平增高是内质网应激诱导凋亡的标志之一,单药并不影响CHOP表达,但是硼替佐米和obatoclax联用后,CHOP蛋白的表达水平明显上升(图5C)。

MTT实验结果显示,TUDCA对Nalm-6细胞没有毒性,但可明显提高硼替佐米与obatoclax联用组细胞的活力(P <0.01,图5D);流式细胞术结果与此一致,TUDCA显著降低联用组诱导的细胞凋亡(P <0.01,图5E)。

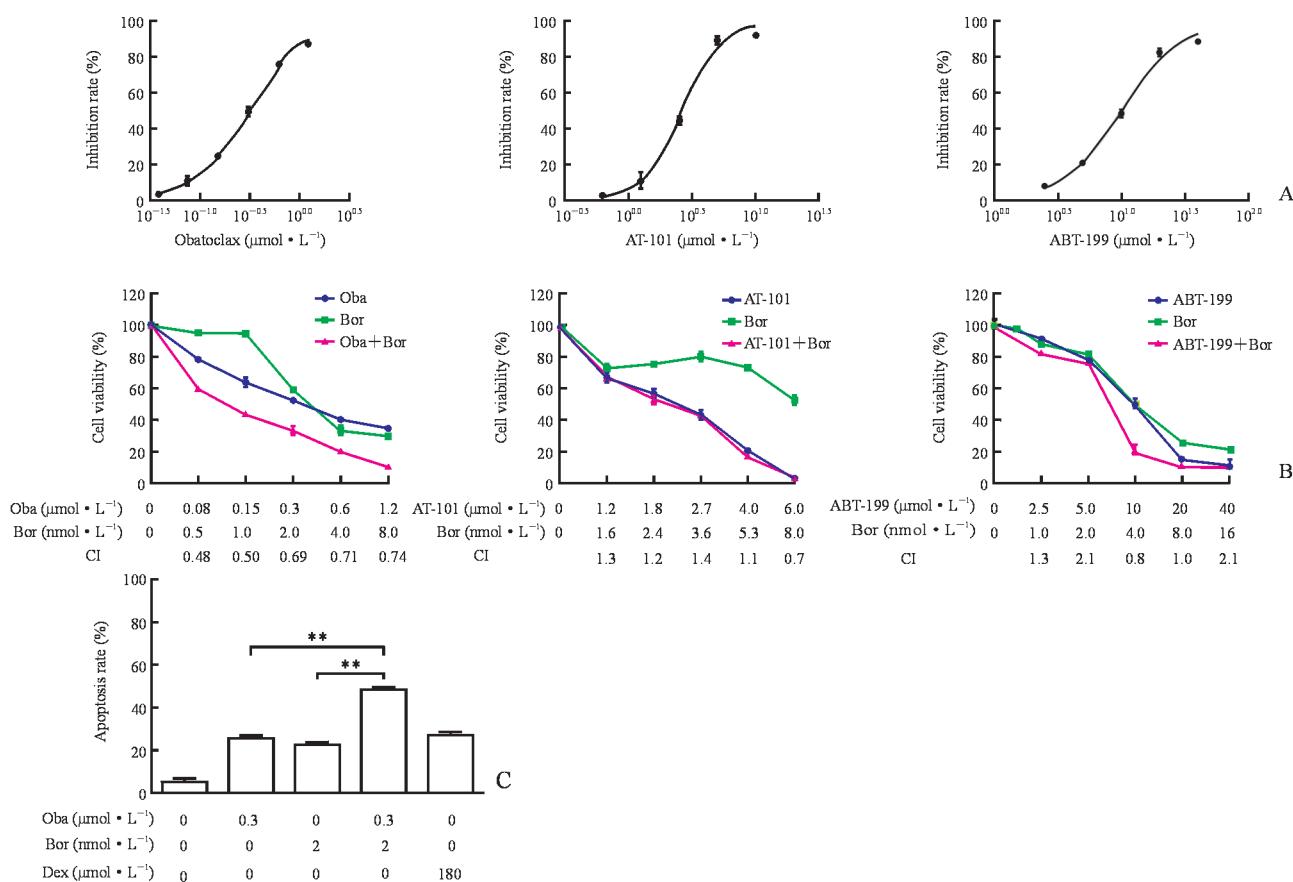


图3 硼替佐米与 obatoclax 联用对人急性B淋巴细胞白血病细胞株 Nalm-6 具有协同细胞毒性作用

Fig 3 Obatoclax potentiated the cytotoxicity of human acute B lymphoblastic leukemia cell line Nalm-6 in response to bortezomib

A: Cytotoxic effect of obatoclax ($IC_{50}=[0.3 \pm 0.1] \mu\text{mol/L}$), AT-101 ($IC_{50}=[3.5 \pm 1.5] \mu\text{mol/L}$), or ABT-199 ($IC_{50}=[9.6 \pm 1.6] \mu\text{mol/L}$) on Nalm-6 cells. The IC_{50} value was calculated by GraphPad Prism 5.0 software. B: Cell viability of bortezomib plus obatoclax, AT-101, or ABT-199 was measured by MTT assay (CompuSyn software) was used to calculate CI of the two-drug combination, where $CI < 1$, $CI = 1$, $CI > 1$, indicate synergism, additive effect and antagonism, respectively). C: Cellular apoptosis was assessed by phosphatidylserine externalization, and cells were stained with Annexin V - FITC. Oba: Obatoclax; Bor: Bortezomib; CI: Combination index; Dex: Dexamethasone (positive control); IC_{50} : Half inhibition concentration; FITC: Fluorescein isothiocyanate. $^{**}P < 0.01$. $n=3$, $\bar{x} \pm s$

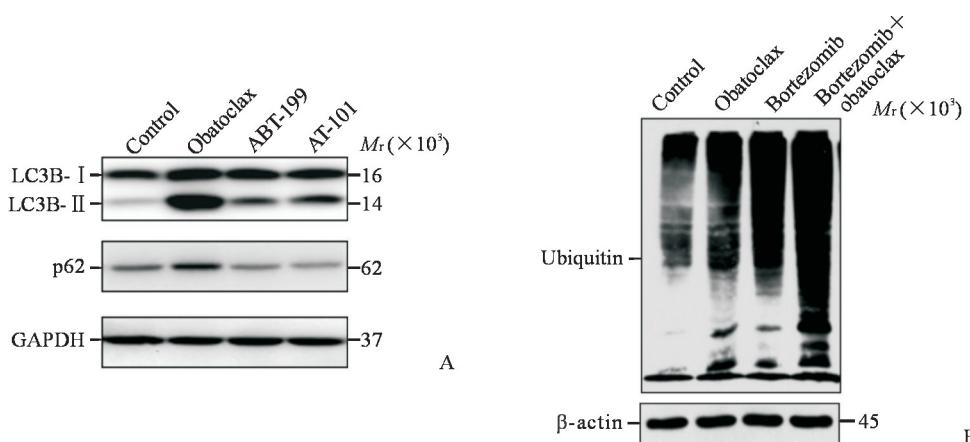


图4 Bcl-2抑制剂对人急性B淋巴细胞白血病细胞株 Nalm-6 自噬相关蛋白的影响

Fig 4 Effect of Bcl-2 inhibitors on autophagy-related proteins in human acute B lymphoblastic leukemia cell line Nalm-6

A: Conversion of LC3B-I to LC3B-II and p62 protein expression levels were determined by Western blotting; B: Polyubiquitinated protein was measured by Western blotting. LC3B: Microtubule-associated protein 1 light chain 3B; GAPDH: Glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase

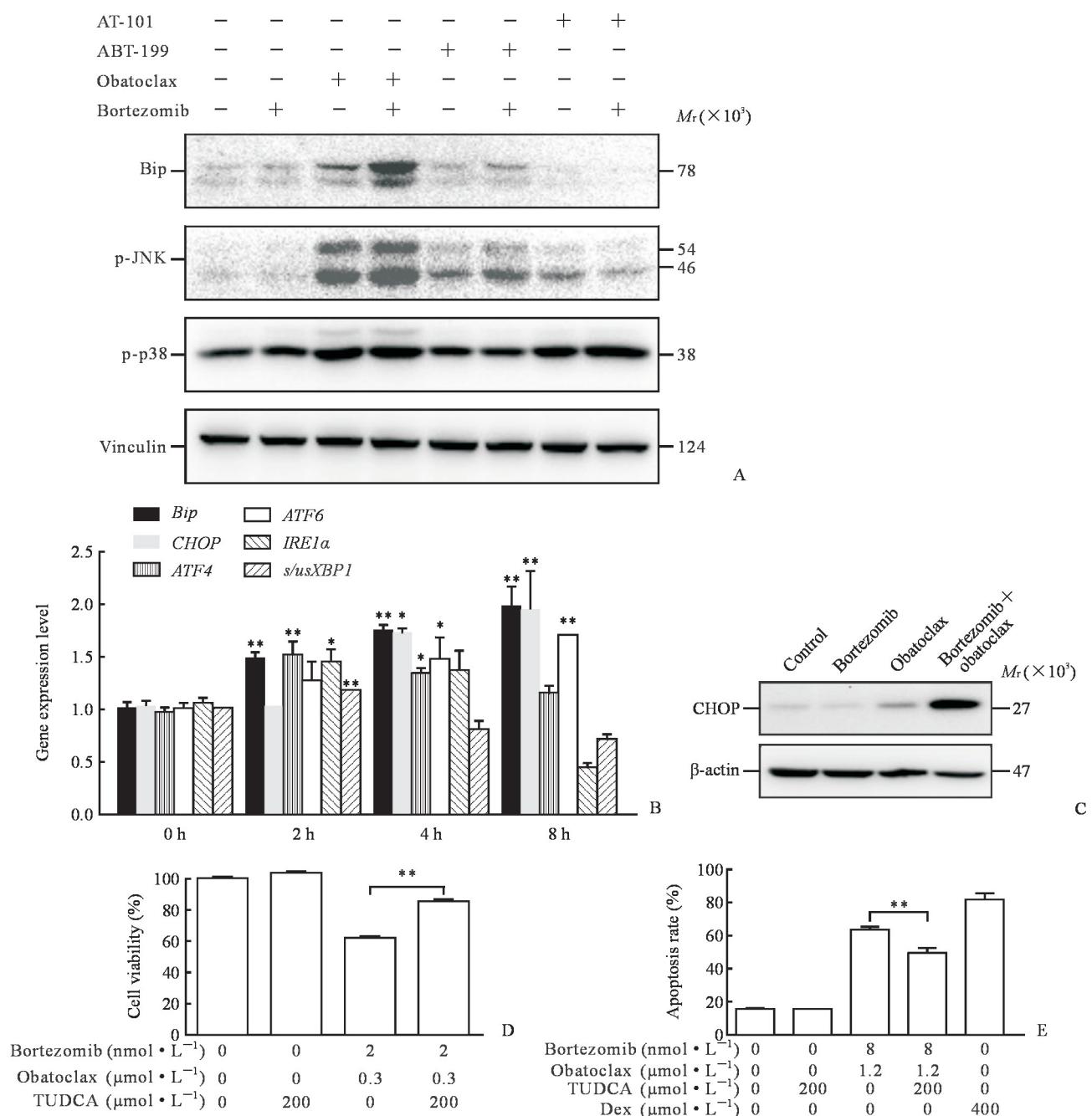


图 5 硼替佐米联用 obatoclax 诱导内质网应激反应并启动末端凋亡通路

Fig 5 Combination of bortezomib with obatoclax induced endoplasmic reticulum stress and terminal pro-apoptotic endoplasmic reticulum stress response

A: Protein levels of Bip, p-JNK, p-p38 were detected by Western blotting; B: mRNA levels of Bip, CHOP, ATF4, ATF6, IRE1 α and s/usXBPI were measured by qRT-PCR ($*P < 0.05$, $**P < 0.01$ vs 0 h. $n = 3$, $\bar{x} \pm s$); C: Protein level of CHOP was determined by Western blotting; D: Cell viability was determined by MTT assay ($**P < 0.01$. $n = 3$, $\bar{x} \pm s$); E: Apoptosis rate was detected by flow cytometry ($**P < 0.01$. $n = 3$, $\bar{x} \pm s$). Bip: Binding immunoglobulin protein; p-JNK: Phosphorylated c-Jun N-terminal kinase; p-p38: Phosphorylated p38; CHOP: C/EBP homologous protein; ATF: Activating transcription factor; IRE1 α : Inositol-requiring enzyme 1 α ; s/usXBPI: Splicing/un-splicing X-box binding protein 1; TUDCA: Tauroursodeoxycholate acid; Dex: Dexamethasone (positive control)

3 讨 论

临幊上 ALL 治疗的经典药物主要幊于 20 世紀 80 年代，至今使用已超过 30 年，近十年研发的

新药主要有蛋白酶体抑制剂、雷帕霉素靶蛋白抑制剂、Bcl-2 抑制剂、丝裂原活化蛋白激酶激酶抑制剂等^[2, 26]。

本实验结果显示硼替佐米、obatoclax、AT-101

和ABT-199均可明显抑制人急性B淋巴细胞白血病细胞株Nalm-6的细胞活力。值得思考的是,仅硼替佐米与obatoclax联用才具有协同细胞毒性作用。

硼替佐米抑制了蛋白酶体活性,蛋白降解受阻,这必然会引起一些不必要的蛋白的蓄积。已有多项研究证明,硼替佐米可增加Mcl-1蛋白的表达水平^[27-29]。本研究发现,硼替佐米单独作用Nalm-6细胞3 h后,Mcl-1蛋白明显上调,Bcl-2蛋白有轻微上升,Bcl-xL蛋白水平基本不变。Fennell等^[22]的研究也表明,蛋白酶体抑制剂处理细胞数小时后,Mcl-1表达明显增加。当硼替佐米分别联用3种Bcl-2抑制剂(obatoclax、AT-101和ABT-199)时,出乎意料的结果是,只有obatoclax联用硼替佐米才具有协同细胞毒性作用,而其他2种Bcl-2抑制剂的联用均未观察到相同现象。Obatoclax、AT-101和ABT-199三者是目前研究较为广泛的Bcl-2抑制剂,最经典的作用机制是通过调控Bcl-2等抗/促凋亡蛋白之间的平衡,干扰线粒体膜的完整性,激活内源性途径介导细胞凋亡。Obatoclax、AT-101均可以结合并抑制所有的抗凋亡蛋白,但是AT-101联用硼替佐米并没有发现协同细胞毒性作用。而ABT-199(又名维奈托克)是目前首个蛋白-蛋白相互作用抑制剂,已被批准用于治疗17p缺失突变型慢性淋巴细胞白血病,其与硼替佐米联用同样没有显示出协同细胞毒性作用。因此,抗促凋亡蛋白介导线粒体凋亡并不能完全解释以上研究结果,提示还存在其他协同机制。

我们前期的研究发现,obatoclax作用于人食管癌细胞3 h后,可聚集在溶酶体中并干扰其功能,同时下调组织蛋白酶活性,阻断自噬流^[30]。随后,其他实验室也发现obatoclax可影响溶酶体的功能^[31-32]。自噬具有双重作用,既可促进细胞生存也可促进细胞死亡。有研究表明,obatoclax诱导的自噬可能与细胞死亡密切相关,当通过基因敲除手段或药理性方法抑制自噬后,发现细胞死亡受到抑制^[33-38]。接下来,我们进一步分析发现,obatoclax可增加自噬标志蛋白LC3B-II的表达,同时上调p62蛋白的表达,提示自噬流被阻断,自噬活性降低。而在AT-101、ABT-199中并未观察到此现象。自噬和UPP是真核细胞内的两大蛋白降解通路^[39]。越来越多的资料证明,自噬和蛋白酶体之间是互补的,当蛋白酶体通路降解受阻时,自噬可

被激活,两者相互调节细胞内蛋白降解^[40-41]。本实验结果显示,两药联用后泛素蓄积比单用更明显。以上结果表明,obatoclax和硼替佐米共同处理Nalm-6细胞后,自噬和UPP通路两条通路均被阻断,造成大量的泛素化蛋白蓄积。

蛋白的大量蓄积会给内质网带来一定的压力,此时细胞会激活内质网应激反应来自我平衡。只有正确折叠的蛋白才能进入高尔基体修饰,而错误折叠的蛋白需经UPP降解^[42]。蛋白酶体抑制剂通过增加错误蛋白的蓄积触发内质网应激从而诱导细胞凋亡。根据前期的实验结果,我们大胆猜测,硼替佐米联用obatoclax通过双重阻断UPP和自噬诱发了内质网应激。

细胞可通过4条不同的途径缓解内质网应激并恢复内质网功能^[43]。第一,压力开始前数小时,细胞主要抑制翻译过程,减少新蛋白在内质网上蓄积直至未折叠蛋白反应(unfolded protein response, UPR)的相关蛋白被加工^[44]。第二,UPR上调内质网分子伴侣蛋白的表达,如Bip。第三,通过内质网相关性降解途径来降解错误或未折叠蛋白^[45-46]。最后,如以上机制仍无法缓解压力,细胞将启动内质网相关程序性死亡^[47]。从实验结果中我们可以看到,单用硼替佐米和obatoclax基本不改变Bip蛋白表达,但是两药联用后Bip表达明显上调。当蛋白持续蓄积造成内质网压力过大时,细胞将触发内质网末端凋亡通路。而CHOP的激活转录和JNK的磷酸化均标志着内质网应激反应末端凋亡通路被激活^[47]。与预期结果一致的是,我们观察到两药联用后可明显上调p-JNK和CHOP蛋白的表达水平。这些结果均表明,硼替佐米联用obatoclax触发了内质网应激从而诱导了细胞凋亡。为了进一步证明内质网应激在其中扮演的角色,我们在联合用药细胞组中加入适当浓度的TUDCA。TUDCA是一种常见内质网应激反应抑制剂,在体内外均有活性并且已被美国FDA批准上市。它的作用机制主要是促进蛋白质的正确折叠,稳定蛋白质折叠中间体并阻止蛋白质的聚合,从而抑制内质网应激的激活。我们发现TUDCA提高了药物联用组细胞活性,减少了细胞凋亡,结果与预期一致,这可能是TUDCA发挥了其促进蛋白正确折叠等相关功能,相对降低了细胞内蛋白的蓄积量,从而减缓了内质网应激诱导的凋亡。

根据多个实验室及我们的研究,蛋白酶体抑制剂联用 Bcl-2 抑制剂在多种血液恶性肿瘤中均发现有协同作用,包括套细胞淋巴瘤、多发性骨髓瘤、弥漫性大 B 细胞淋巴瘤等^[48-50]。另外,硼替佐米联合多种抗肿瘤药物对 ALL 更为敏感,如地塞米松、天冬酰胺酶、长春新碱、多柔比星、阿糖胞苷^[13],但其内在协同机制仍不清晰。目前,硼替佐米和 obatoclax 联用治疗 ALL 的研究尚未见报道,其内在协同机制更不清楚。本研究发现硼替佐米联用 obatoclax 可双重阻断自噬和 UPP,造成大量蛋白蓄积并触发内质网应激,最终引起细胞凋亡。这些结果表明硼替佐米与 obatoclax 联用有望成为 ALL 治疗的新策略之一。

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