

DOI: 10.16781/j.CN31-2187/R.20230174

• 综述 •

心房颤动冷冻球囊消融术中膈神经损伤预防策略研究进展

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[摘要] 心房颤动是临床常见的心律失常之一, 具有高发率和高致残率, 给社会和经济带来了沉重的负担。多数心房颤动起源于肺静脉, 因此肺静脉隔离是导管消融治疗心房颤动的主要术式。冷冻球囊消融具有损伤可逆、手术时间短、患者手术体验佳等优点, 目前已广泛应用于临床, 成为心房颤动的一线治疗方案。与射频消融相比, 冷冻球囊消融发生膈神经损伤的风险相对更高, 尤其是在对右侧肺静脉冷冻消融期间。本文旨在讨论冷冻球囊消融治疗心房颤动过程中预防膈神经损伤的策略, 例如冷冻消融的温度监控、球囊操作的策略(即球囊放气、近端封堵、膈神经起搏等), 以总结经验, 从而有效预防并发症的发生。

[关键词] 心房颤动; 冷冻消融; 膈神经损伤; 预防

[引用本文] 彭荣兵, 于曼丽, 郭志福. 心房颤动冷冻球囊消融术中膈神经损伤预防策略研究进展[J]. 海军军医大学学报, 2025, 46(2): 239-243. DOI: 10.16781/j.CN31-2187/R.20230174.

Strategies for preventing phrenic nerve injury during cryoballoon ablation of atrial fibrillation: research progress

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[Abstract] Atrial fibrillation is one of the most common arrhythmias; its high incidence rate and high disability rate lead to heavy social and economic burdens. Most atrial fibrillation originates from pulmonary veins, so pulmonary vein isolation is the mainstay of catheter ablation for the treatment of atrial fibrillation. Cryoballoon ablation has the advantages of reversible injury, short operation time, and better surgical experience for patients. At present, it has been widely used in clinical practice and has become the first-line treatment scheme for atrial fibrillation. However, compared with radiofrequency ablation, cryoballoon ablation carries a relatively higher risk of causing phrenic nerve injury, particularly during the process of cryoablation targeting the right pulmonary vein. Therefore, this article aims to discuss the strategies for preventing phrenic nerve injury during cryoballoon ablation for atrial fibrillation, such as the temperature monitoring during cryoablation and the strategies of balloon operation (i.e. balloon deflation, proximal occlusion, phrenic nerve pacing), so as to summarize the experience and effectively prevent complications.

[Key words] atrial fibrillation; cryoablation; phrenic nerve injury; prevention

[Citation] PENG R, YU M, GUO Z. Strategies for preventing phrenic nerve injury during cryoballoon ablation of atrial fibrillation: research progress[J]. Acad J Naval Med Univ, 2025, 46(2): 239-243. DOI: 10.16781/j.CN31-2187/R.20230174.

在世界范围内, 心房颤动(以下简称房颤)是成人中最常见的持续性心律失常^[1], 其高发病率和高致残率给社会和经济造成沉重负担^[2]。自从发现肺静脉异位起搏是房颤的起源以来, 肺静脉隔离已成为房颤非药物治疗的基石^[3-5]。2020 年欧洲心脏病学会指南建议, 对于应用 I 类或 III 类抗心律

失常药物无效或不耐受的阵发性房颤、持续性房颤合并或不合并复发的危险因素者, 均建议通过肺静脉隔离达到节律控制; 对于应用 β 受体阻滞剂无效或不耐受的阵发性和持续性房颤者可考虑通过肺静脉隔离达到节律控制, 从而达到改善症状的目的^[2]。随着对房颤发病机制认识的加深及消融技

[收稿日期] 2023-04-05

[接受日期] 2023-11-09

[基金项目] 海军军医大学(第二军医大学)第一附属医院基础医学研究专项(2023PY43), 海军军医大学(第二军医大学)第一附属医院教学成果立项培育项目(CGPY2021B09)。Supported by Fundamental Medical Research Project of The First Affiliated Hospital of Naval Medical University (Second Military Medical University) (2023PY43) and Teaching Achievement Cultivation Program of The First Affiliated Hospital of Naval Medical University (Second Military Medical University) (CGPY2021B09).

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术的进步,基于冷冻球囊消融的肺静脉隔离已经成为一种被广泛接受的房颤消融策略。有学者发现,冷冻球囊消融房颤的治疗效果优于抗心律失常药物^[6]。然而,与射频消融相比,冷冻球囊消融发生膈神经损伤(phrenic nerve injury, PNI)的风险更高^[7],尤其是在右侧肺静脉消融期间^[2]。本文旨在讨论房颤冷冻球囊消融术中防止PNI发生的相关策略。

1 膈神经解剖

膈神经是支配膈肌运动的唯一神经,起源于第3~5颈神经。右膈神经沿着右头臂静脉几乎垂直下降,在上腔静脉和右心房之前的心包膜前外侧分离^[8]。右膈神经与右侧肺静脉的解剖关系密切,部分患者右上肺静脉前壁距膈神经甚至<2 mm。由于右肺静脉与膈神经的特殊解剖关系,冷冻球囊消融房颤时右侧膈神经更易损伤^[9]。Heeger等^[10]研究发现,房颤冷冻球囊消融过程中PNI的发生率约为4.2%,53.9%的患者至手术结束时PNI恢复,术后12个月时97.0%的患者PNI恢复,只有0.1%的患者出现永久性PNI。

2 PNI实时监测方法

尽管术中进行全面监测,仍可能出现PNI^[11]。目前术中进行PNI实时监测的常用方法有3种。

(1) 膈神经起搏。通过将起搏导管置入上腔静脉捕获膈神经电活动来监测右膈神经功能。在心房-上腔静脉交界处,膈神经与上腔静脉壁仅由心包隔开,有研究表明起搏导管放置的最佳位置是上腔静脉内消融位置的上方^[12]。使用电解剖学定位来进行膈神经的起搏标测和膈神经的走行标记,可为术者提供有关膈神经解剖过程的重要信息,三维显影可明确消融靶点与膈神经的相对位置关系,对预防PNI也有重要意义。

(2) 膈肌肌电图监测。膈肌肌电图正越来越多地被用于检测影响呼吸的神经肌肉疾病患者的膈神经功能,提供诊断信息。在手术过程中行膈神经起搏时记录膈肌复合运动动作电位(compound motor action potential, CMAP),可预防右肺静脉冷冻球囊消融术中的PNI^[13],当CMAP振幅比基线下降35%时可以预测即将出现的PNI^[11-12]。研究表明,术中监测CMAP,PNI发生的风险仅为

0.7%^[14-15]。利用此方法可以在冷冻球囊消融过程中连续监测CMAP变化,如果观察到CMAP的幅度比基线下降了30%立即停止消融,可有效地防止右侧肺静脉冷冻消融过程中持续性的PNI发生^[16]。

(3) 膈肌触诊及透视。在消融过程中,透视和触诊可以配合多种方式监测膈神经功能,如在膈神经起搏时触诊膈肌运动的强度来间接了解膈神经功能,但不建议使用这种方法作为监测PNI功能的唯一措施^[11]。

3 冷冻球囊消融术中避免PNI策略

PNI是冷冻球囊消融术中最常见的并发症,主要发生在右侧肺静脉消融的过程中。手术中应注意对膈神经的保护,选择合适的冷冻球囊,采用温度监测、即刻球囊放气、近端封堵等策略能避免PNI的发生。

3.1 温度监测 研究表明,在冷冻球囊消融右上肺静脉过程中,组织降温速度与PNI的发生有明显的相关性^[17]。球囊温度急剧快速下降(消融前40 s内温度低于-38℃)^[18],或是球囊远端最低温度达到-60℃~-55℃是PNI的预测指标,建议在出现上述任何一种情况时立即终止消融,并及时确认冷冻球囊位置。如果冷冻球囊内最低消融温度达到-55℃以下,则不要进行后续操作,待组织完全复温以有效降低PNI或食道损伤的风险^[19-20]。Mugnai等^[21]对550例接受冷冻球囊消融治疗的房颤患者肺静脉局部温度降低速度进行分析,发现在右上肺静脉冷冻消融过程中,局部消融温度下降过快与PNI的发生相关,发生PNI的患者开始冷冻消融后20、30和40 s内右上肺静脉内局部达到的温度比未发生PNI的患者明显降低(*P*值分别为0.006、0.003和0.003)。Kühne等^[22]也得出了相似结论,其所研究的4例膈神经麻痹病患者在消融过程中都出现局部温度下降过快的情况,对冷冻消融开始后前40 s内体温变化的分析显示,出现PNI的患者在此期间内温度下降的速度明显更快。Deubner等^[23]发现,手术过程中局部组织温度下降速度>1.81℃/s时,PNI阳性预测率可达97%。由上可得结论,在冷冻消融早期对温度的评估可能是预测PNI的敏感因素,密切监测消融过程中肺静脉内的温度可以进一步减小房颤冷冻消融的手术风险。此外,有研究证实冷冻消融早期阶段组织温度下降过

快(40 s内低于 -38°C)可帮助预测PNI^[24]。

3.2 即刻球囊放气 即刻球囊放气指的是未等局部组织完全复温便排空并撤出球囊。当膈神经起搏和膈肌触诊发现膈肌收缩减弱时,进行即刻球囊放气可使球囊立即与肺静脉组织分离,加快局部组织复温,防止持续性PNI的出现。Heeger等^[10]研究发现,PNI发生时的温度是其恢复的一个强预测因子,PNI时温度越低,12个月内恢复的概率越低。Ghosh等^[12]回顾性分析了130例房颤患者的冷冻球囊消融术,比较立即球囊放气组和正常球囊放气组温度上升到 0°C 和 20°C 所需时间,发现立即球囊放气组局部组织复温时间明显快于正常球囊放气组,且行立即球囊放气后无患者发生持续性PNI。Förnkrantz等^[25]对冷冻消融过程中动物和人类心内膜冷冻标测的研究发现,当消融温度下降至 -50°C 以下时通常会导致细胞死亡。有学者发现当膈神经降温至 10°C 会导致神经功能障碍,复温后膈神经功能可立即恢复;温度下降至 4°C 时可导致膈神经功能障碍持续时间长达4 h^[26];将膈神经降至同一温度,低温持续时间越长,复温所需时间越长。因此,当出现膈肌收缩减弱时组织复温的速度也至关重要,与缓慢复温相比,组织快速复温有助于迅速恢复冷冻细胞的活性,恢复膈神经功能^[27]。Farkowski等^[28]认为,在组织温度尚未完全恢复时行二次冷冻会增加PNI发生的风险。研究表明,立即球囊放气的可能获益机制包括:

(1)消除血流障碍,通过循环的恢复使机体快速复温;(2)防止球囊进一步潜在冷却;(3)及时撤出冷冻球囊可能避免肺静脉血管壁因球囊挤压而更接近膈神经^[17]。体外模拟实验表明,当出现局部组织温度较低或下降过快时,即刻球囊放气对心脏及血管内膜基本无害^[12]。

3.3 近端封堵 近端封堵是指在消融过程中如果造影发现肺静脉封闭良好,未见明显造影剂泄露,不要立即消融,稍微撤出冷冻球囊,允许肺静脉球囊界面周围少许渗漏,以便更好地界定肺静脉口,并确保近端消融。消融前只需重新向前施加微小压力即可恢复肺静脉良好的闭塞。还可以在放置球囊之前便开始降温消融,以增加球囊压力,从而实现更加接近消融靶点的环肺静脉隔离。近端封堵技术的应用也可降低消融右上肺静脉时发生PNI的风险^[19,29]。近端封堵技术在冷冻消融手术过程中应

用较为广泛,主要用于帮助术者更好的进行肺静脉封堵,明确球囊与消融靶点的相对位置,达到更好的消融效果,同时一定程度上避免球囊过于深入肺静脉内,且操作相对简便,实用性、可操作性及可复制性强,可帮助提升手术疗效,预防PNI的发生。

3.4 球囊选择 Peyrol等^[30]认为选择合适的冷冻球囊对预防PNI有重要意义。Maj等^[18]建议当4个肺静脉最大直径 $<20\text{ mm}$ 时,首选 23 mm 冷冻球囊;当其中1个肺静脉直径 $\geq 20\text{ mm}$ 时,首选 28 mm 冷冻球囊。肺静脉口直径较大会使冷冻球囊更加容易靠近膈神经走行,从而使PNI发生率升高。Tokuda等^[29]研究表明,肺静脉与球囊大小的比值 ≥ 0.93 时不建议行冷冻球囊消融,球囊过小或肺静脉直径过大均可能导致消融时球囊位置更加深入肺静脉远端,更加靠近膈神经,从而增加PNI的发生风险。

4 小 结

冷冻球囊消融是治疗房颤的有效方法之一。然而,没有单纯一种方法预测PNI是绝对可靠的,消融过程中可同时应用多种技术监测膈神经功能,比如在膈神经触诊以及CAMP等膈神经功能监测的基础上及时发现并采取即刻球囊放气,或者在手术过程中监测肺静脉局部组织温度,同时采用近端封堵的手术策略,根据肺静脉直径选择最合适的冷冻球囊也可有效防止PNI的发生。中国最新房颤诊疗指南^[31]建议,冷冻消融可作为阵发性房颤的一线治疗方案,如何降低并发症的发生率显得更为重要。随着冷冻技术的不断进步,各项监测手段的创新,PNI的发生率不断降低,球囊消融治疗房颤或将成为未来导管消融治疗房颤的主流手术。

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[本文编辑] 尹 茶