

细胞芯片检测新生隐球菌菌株丝氨酸蛋白酶的表达

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[摘要] **目的:** 利用细胞芯片技术检测新生隐球菌菌株中丝氨酸蛋白酶的表达, 初步探讨丝氨酸蛋白酶在新生隐球菌致病过程中的作用。 **方法:** 不同来源和血清型的新生隐球菌菌株 36 株, 应用组织芯片构建制备菌株芯片, 利用菌株细胞芯片和免疫组化技术对菌株中丝氨酸蛋白酶的表达情况进行检测。 **结果:** 丝氨酸蛋白酶在所有菌株细胞中强阳性表达率为 67.0% (25/36), 强阳性表达率在血清 A 型、血清 B 型、血清 D/AD 型分别为 46.2% (6/13)、92.3% (12/13)、66.7% (4/6), 在环境分离株、临床分离株及荚膜缺陷株中分别为 55.6% (5/9)、82.6% (19/23)、25% (1/4)。不同血清型及不同来源菌株中, 以血清 B 型、临床分离株中的丝氨酸蛋白酶阳性表达率高 ($P < 0.05$)。 **结论:** 菌株细胞芯片是检测致病性真菌样本成分的新技术; 致病力强的新生隐球菌临床分离株中的丝氨酸蛋白酶表达最高, 提示丝氨酸蛋白酶在临床菌株致病过程中起到主要作用。

[关键词] 新生隐球菌; 细胞芯片; 丝氨酸蛋白酶

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Cell microarray in detection of serine protease expression in *Cryptococcus neoformans*

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[ABSTRACT] **Objective:** To determine the serine protease expression in *Cryptococcus neoformans* (*C. neoformans*) by cell microarray technique, so as to investigate the role of serine protease in the pathogenesis of *C. neoformans*. **Methods:** The cell microarray was constructed with tissue microarray. Thirty-six strains of *C. neoformans* of different sources and homologous serotypes were examined for their serine protease expression by cell microarray technique and immunohistochemistry. **Results:** Strong expression of serine protease was found in 25 (67.0%) strains. The rates of strong serine protease expression in serotype A, B and D/AD strains were 46.2% (6/13), 92.3% (12/13) and 66.7% (4/6), and in environment-isolated, clinically isolated and uncapsuled strains were 55.6% (5/9), 82.6% (19/23) and 25% (1/4), respectively. Serine protease expressions in serotype B and clinically-isolated strains were significantly higher than that in other group ($P < 0.05$). **Conclusion:** Microarray of strain cells is a new method for identifying pathogenic fungus. Higher expression of serine protease in clinically-isolated strains is associated with strong virulence of clinical isolates strains, suggesting that serine protease plays a major role in the pathogenesis of *C. neoformans*.

[KEY WORDS] *Cryptococcus neoformans*; cell microarray; serine protease

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致病性真菌在体外或感染宿主过程中能够分泌内源性和外源性胞外蛋白酶, 这些酶参与了菌株对宿主的黏附和渗透等病理过程, 被认为是潜在的毒性因子, 其中胞外蛋白水解酶含有的主要成分——丝氨酸蛋白酶因具有引发宿主血脑屏障开放性增强^[1]和嗜神经^[2]等特性, 近年已引起广泛关注。菌株细胞芯片 (cell microarray) 技术在致病性真菌核酸、蛋白检测中的应用, 以及它与基因芯片、蛋白芯片等其他生物学技术的结合应用, 极大地丰富和促进了真菌基础性研究的深入和发展。本项研究旨在将组织芯片技术延伸到菌株芯片并且与免疫组化方法相结合, 检测各型新生隐球菌菌株细胞中丝氨酸蛋白酶的表达分布情况, 横向对比丝氨酸蛋白酶在新生隐球菌致病过程中的作用。

1 材料和方法

1.1 标本 新生隐球菌菌株 36 株, 包括环境分离株 9 株、临床分离株 23 株、荚膜缺陷株 4 株。36 株菌中血清 A 型有 13 株、血清 B 型有 13 株、血清 D/AD 型有 6 株。所有菌株均为中国医学真菌保藏管理中心隐球菌专业实验室提供。

1.2 菌株细胞芯片构建 根据预实验结果, 在 58℃ 的石蜡中加入 2.5% 左右的蜂蜡制成蜡块, 以

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此蜡块作为空白蜡块进行菌株细胞芯片的构建。离心沉淀获取各种活化菌株的沉淀物,石蜡包埋固定,切片,H-E染色。通过油镜观察 H-E 切片,确定典型的可见核膜、核仁等结构的菌株细胞截面,并在相应的蜡块上作好标记。然后参照 Kononen 等^[3]建立的方法应用组织芯片构建仪(Beecher Instruments, Silver Spring, MD)制备菌株芯片。方法如下:应用构建仪器在一个新的空白蜡块(45 mm×28 mm×15 mm)中穿孔(直径 0.6 mm),然后在选取的菌株蜡块中穿取组织(直径 0.6 mm),准确放入空白蜡块的小孔内,依次按序操作,直至将所有菌株标本种植于空白蜡块中,并加以记录。最后应用石蜡切片机进行连续切片。分别选用 2 种贴片方式,一种是用胶带粘贴连续的菌株芯片,然后转移到涂有聚合胶的载玻片上,用滚筒轻轻压平,使胶带上的菌株成分紧贴在玻片上,紫外线照射 2 min,再用特制的去油污洗液浸泡,使胶带从玻片上脱离、晾干,-20℃保存。另一种是常规的贴片方式。

1.3 免疫组化 Rabbit Anti-PLAT 一抗购于武汉博士德公司。免疫组化技术采用 EnVision 二步法,用 PBS 替代一抗作阴性对照。

1.4 结果判断 在双盲的情况下由两名病理科医师对每张切片进行全面的观察:在 1 000 倍的油镜下观察 5 个视野,每个视野 100 个细胞,在良好的菌株细胞结构及清晰的背景上菌株细胞内出现棕褐色为表达阳性细胞,计算阳性细胞百分率。每张切片阳性细胞≤50%为低表达,>50%为高表达。

1.5 统计学处理 SAS 统计软件分析数据,采用 Fisher 精确概率法检验。

2 结果

2.1 菌株芯片的构建 构建了一张菌株芯片,含 36 个位点(图 1),其中脱落 3 位点,用常规切片补充。

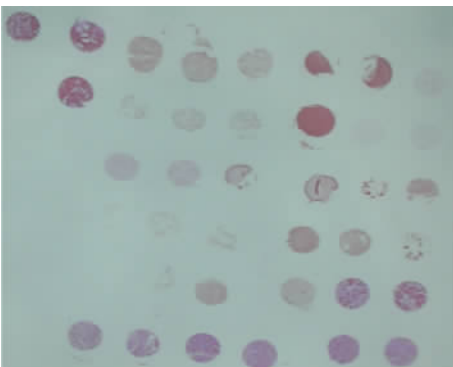


图 1 新生隐球菌菌株芯片
Fig 1 Microarray of *C. neoformans* (H-E, ×4)

2.2 丝氨酸蛋白酶在各型隐球酵母细胞中的表达与分布 经免疫组化 EnVision 方法检测,油镜观察丝氨酸蛋白酶阳性着色分别定位于菌株细胞壁和核内,呈现淡黄、棕黄或棕褐色。各种菌株细胞内的丝氨酸蛋白酶阳性着色大多呈片或弥漫分布,分布区域基本在细胞质中,主要以被切开的暴露细胞内部结构成分为主(图 2)。所有菌株细胞均可见丝氨酸蛋白酶阳性表达,高阳性表达率为 67.0%(25/36),其中血清 A 型、B 型、D/AD 型的高阳性表达率分别为 46.2%(6/13)、92.3%(12/13)、66.7%(4/6),环境分离株、临床分离株、荚膜缺陷株的高阳性表达率分别为 55.6%(5/9)、82.6%(19/23)、25%(1/4),以血清 B 型和临床分离株的高阳性表达率最高($P<0.05$)。

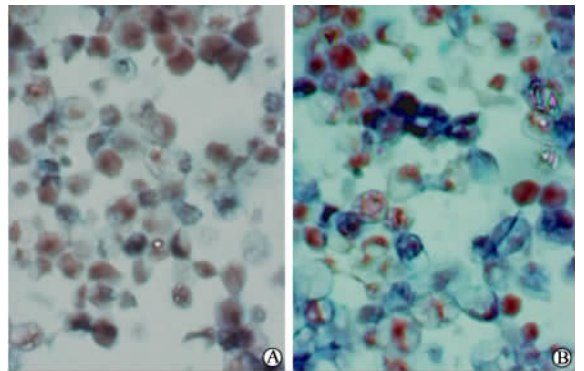


图 2 菌株细胞中丝氨酸蛋白酶的表达
Fig 2 Serine protease expression in strain cells(EnVision, ×1 000)

A: Weakly positive staining; B: Strongly positive staining

3 讨论

3.1 菌株细胞芯片的构建 本实验尝试在真菌学研究领域运用组织芯片技术构建菌株芯片以定性定量检测菌株细胞组成成分,精选了具有代表性的临床、环境和荚膜缺陷等新生隐球菌菌株构建菌株芯片,虽然样本量少,但是涵盖了所有类型的隐球菌。在构建和切片中,发现国内外生产的石蜡存在易碎、裂开、脆等问题。在几种型号的石蜡中分别加入 1%、2% 和 3% 的蜂蜡,结果在 58℃ 的石蜡加入 2.5% 左右的蜂蜡,并经过反复的加温、冷却,制成的蜡模效果非常好,能够非常稳定、完整地连续切片。构建芯片时需要注意:(1)蜡模块足够大,组织四周预留 0.5~0.7 cm 的空间。(2)模块用金属框架包好,并在 58℃ 温箱中存放 1 h,使蜡和菌株细胞重新溶为一体,室温下冷却。(3)蜡块不要放在-20℃中

冷藏,否则易裂开,造成切片不完整。采用在4℃中保存4h,修完蜡块后用冰袋(-20℃)冰菌株蜡块,最大限度地一次切完整个蜡块,每次冰后可连续切30张左右,将切片刀换一个位置,切完后应保存在-20~40℃的冰箱中备用。(4)菌株芯片设计时,每个圆柱状菌株细胞组织之间应留一定的间距,一般0.2mm为最佳,文献报道^[4]预留2倍于组织的空间最为理想。

本研究分别选用2种贴片方式,胶带法和常规贴片法。结果表明:胶带反复具有胶带很难从玻片上分离的缺点,经常会带一部分菌株组织下来,造成贴片不完整,而且操作有一定难度,价格也较昂贵;常规反复既方便,又经济,且用免疫组化方法的强抗原修复也不脱片。但Rimm等^[4]认为胶带法要优于常规方法。

3.2 不同来源和血清型菌株中丝氨酸蛋白酶的表达差异 实验中观察到被切开的暴露各种菌株细胞内的丝氨酸蛋白酶阳性着色大多呈片或弥漫分布,分布区域基本在细胞壁和细胞质中,与Reichard等^[5]研究发现的烟曲霉的碱性蛋白酶既存在于胞质中,又存在于真菌的细胞壁的结论相符。丝氨酸蛋白酶的表达在血清B型菌株高于血清A型和AD/D

型,临床分离株高于环境分离株和荚膜缺陷株,已知血清A型中绝大多数是环境分离株,而血清B型基本由临床分离株组成,推测丝氨酸蛋白酶在临床菌株致病过程中起到主要作用。

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Cardiovascular effects of agmatine within the rostral ventrolateral medulla are similar to those of clonidine in anesthetized rats

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[ABSTRACT] Agmatine was isolated from bovine brain in 1994. It exhibits various functions, as a consequence of which it meets the criteria for an endogenous brain neurotransmitter. However, its physiological action on the cardiovascular system remains unclear. This study was designed to clarify its cardiovascular effects when administered into the rostral ventrolateral medulla (RVLM) in anesthetized and paralyzed rats. Unilateral injection of clonidine (5 nmol) into the RVLM significantly decreased mean arterial pressure (MAP) and heart rate (HR). Unilateral injection of agmatine (5 nmol) produced similar effects to clonidine. The amplitude of the decrease in HR was the same as with clonidine, but the amplitude of the decrease in MAP was less pronounced. The cardiovascular inhibition induced by clonidine (5 nmol) and agmatine was abolished by idazoxan (5 nmol). Similar to clonidine, agmatine inhibited the pressor effect of *L*-glutamate (2 nmol) injected into the RVLM. The duration of this effect (about 6 min) was shorter than that observed with clonidine (about 12 min). Bilateral injection of agmatine into the RVLM inhibited the depressor response induced by baroreflex activation (electrical stimulation of the aortic nerve), and this effect was similar to, but less pronounced than, that induced by clonidine. Idazoxan (5 nmol) antagonized the cardiovascular effects of clonidine and agmatine within the RVLM. However, it produced a similar effect to clonidine injected into the RVLM. It is concluded that agmatine exerts a similar cardiovascular effect to clonidine, with less potency within the RVLM. Idazoxan might be a partial agonist for imidazoline I (1) receptors.

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