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· 论 著 ·

依达拉奉通过降低脊神经结扎大鼠背根神经节和脊髓 pJNK 抑制痛敏

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[摘要] 目的:观察依达拉奉对脊神经结扎(SNL)大鼠痛敏的影响及其作用机制。方法:将SD雄性大鼠随机分为假手术(Sham)组、SNL模型组和依达拉奉(Eda)组,观察脊神经结扎大鼠术前及术后7d机械痛反应阈值(PWMT)的变化;在术后相应时间点取各组大鼠手术侧L₅和L₄及对侧L₅背根神经节(DRG)和脊髓,观察pJNK在DRG和脊髓中的表达分布及依达拉奉对pJNK表达的影响。结果:依达拉奉可以减轻脊神经结扎引起的痛敏现象;SNL组术后24h手术侧L₅DRG中pJNK阳性神经元的表达增加,术后3d免疫双荧光显示脊髓中pJNK在星型胶质细胞中存在高表达现象;依达拉奉可以降低相应时间点DRG和脊髓中pJNK表达的含量。结论:依达拉奉能抑制脊神经结扎引起的痛敏现象,其机制可能是通过降低脊髓和DRG中pJNK的含量而产生镇痛作用的。

[关键词] 依达拉奉;自由基清除剂;脊神经结扎;神经痛;pJNK

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Edaravone inhibits pain sensitivity through decreasing pJNK expression in dorsal root ganglia and spinal cord in rats with spinal nerve ligated

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[ABSTRACT] **Objective:** To investigate the effect of edaravone on the pain sensitivity in rats with spinal nerve ligated and to probe into the related mechanism. **Methods:** Male adult SD rats were randomly divided into 3 groups: a sham (Sham) group, a spinal nerve ligation (SNL) group and edaravone (Eda) group. The paw withdrawal mechanical threshold (PWMT) was measured before and after ligation (once daily for 7 days). Rats were sacrificed at specified time points and the left (operation side) L₄ and L₅ dorsal root ganglia (DRG) and the right (control side) L₅ DRG were obtained and immunostained to observe the changes of pJNK in DRG neurons and spinal cords, so as to observe the effect of edaravone on pJNK. **Results:** Edaravone can reduce the mechanical hyperalgesia induced by spinal nerve ligation. Immunostaining showed that the SNL group had an increased pJNK in the ipsilateral DRG neurons (L₅) 24 hours after ligation; double immunofluorescence indicated that the expression of pJNK in the ipsilateral spinal astrocytes was increased 3 days after ligation. Edaravone can reduce pJNK expression in DRG neurons and spinal cords at corresponding time points. **Conclusion:** Edaravone can relieve the neuropathic pain induced by spinal nerve ligation, and the mechanism might be related to the inhibition of pJNK expression in DRG neurons and spinal cords.

[KEY WORDS] edaravone; free radical scavenger; spinal nerve ligation; neuropathic pain; pJNK

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神经病理性疼痛(neuropathic pain)是指原发性或继发于神经系统损害、功能障碍而引起的疼痛。由于对神经源性疼痛的发病机制尚不完全清楚,到目前为止,临床上仍缺乏满意的镇痛药物。对于慢性神经病理性疼痛的治疗,目前除了非甾体类抗炎药和阿片制剂外,并没有很多的选择,其治疗的满意

率 30%。某些慢性病患者很容易对吗啡形成依赖,甚至成瘾,而非甾体类抗炎药又有很多的不良反应,因此需要介于这二者之间的药物。新近的研究^[1-4]发现活性氧参与了神经痛和炎性痛的发生和发展。依达拉奉(edaravone)是日本新开发的一种针对脑梗死急性期的自由基清除剂^[5-6],有学者将其用

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于炎性痛的实验研究,发现依达拉奉具有镇痛作用^[7],但迄今为止,还未见其用于神经病理性疼痛治疗的研究报道。本实验通过建立脊神经结扎(spinal nerve ligation, SNL)模型诱发经典的神经病理性疼痛模型,观察自由基清除剂依达拉奉是否有镇痛作用,如果证实其有镇痛作用,则进行初步的机制探讨。

1 材料和方法

1.1 实验动物 66只成年雄性 Sprague-Dawley (SD)大鼠,体质量180~200 g,购自上海西普尔-必凯实验动物有限公司(B&K)。实验大鼠随机分为3组($n=22$):假手术(Sham)组、脊神经结扎模型(SNL)组和依达拉奉(Eda)组。各组分别取10只大鼠用于行为学实验测试,其余12只用于免疫组织化学检测。

1.2 模型制作 实验前动物禁食12 h,自由饮水。10%水合氯醛400 mg/kg腹腔注射,麻醉后将动物置于手术操作台上。SNL组与Eda组根据文献^[8]方法进行L₅脊神经结扎术,即局部常规剪毛消毒,沿背部中下部切开皮肤,钝性分离皮下组织及肌肉暴露左侧L₅椎板;充分止血后用咬骨钳小心去除椎板以显露L₅脊神经,4-0丝线紧紧结扎;无菌生理盐水冲洗伤口后逐层缝合皮肤,关闭伤口。Sham组手术入路同前,不结扎脊神经。术后将大鼠置于铺有3~6 cm厚新木屑的鼠笼中观察,苏醒后自由进食和饮用纯净水。

1.3 药品与给药方法 依达拉奉(3-甲基-1-苯基-2-吡唑啉-5-酮,相对分子质量为174.20)由南京先声东元制药有限公司馈赠。依达拉奉原料(纯度99.99%)用1 mol/L NaOH溶解,用1 mol/L HCl将pH调至7.4;滴加无菌水将依达拉奉溶液稀释至1 mg/ml。大鼠脊神经结扎前一天开始腹腔注射4 mg/kg依达拉奉(2次/d),在脊神经结扎后继续给药2 d,共持续给药3 d。Sham组的给药方式与Eda组相同。SNL组注入等量的生理盐水。

1.4 行为学测定及筛选 于术前1 d及术后每天进行大鼠机械性痛敏行为学测定,用药结束后继续测试5 d,共持续8 d。将大鼠置于底部带有金属网的行为学检测台上,上盖有机玻璃罩。待大鼠适应环境并处于安静状态后(通常15~30 min),用一系列von Frey纤维丝(分别为0.51、1.08、3.85、5.50、7.05、10.4、12.0、15.0、17.8 g)垂直刺激大鼠后肢足底,纤维丝稍弯,持续6~8 s。大鼠在刺激时间内或在移开纤维丝时立即出现快速的缩足反应,记为阳性反应,每隔5 s测1次,重复10次。引起大鼠缩足频率(缩足次数/总刺激次数×100%)>50%的最小刺激强度(PWMT)定义为机械刺激痛反应阈值,

如果17.8 g的刺激强度仍不能使大鼠产生缩足反应,则大鼠的痛反应阈值记录为17.8 g。

1.5 标本采集及免疫荧光组织化学染色 Sham组、SNL组与Eda组大鼠分别于脊神经结扎后相应时间点用10%水合氯醛麻醉,麻醉起效后行心脏插管灌流固定。依次用37℃生理盐水、多聚甲醛(40 g/L)各50 ml冲洗至流出液澄清;再用4℃约200 ml多聚甲醛液灌流固定5 min,取L₅DRG及相应节段的脊髓置于4℃多聚甲醛液固定4 h;然后转至30%蔗糖溶液(0.1 mol/L PBS缓冲液配制)过夜沉淀。组织在冰冻切片机中速冻,脊髓厚30 μm,DRG厚15 μm连续切片。切片用0.1 mol/L PBS漂洗3次,每次3 min;然后滴加2%羊血清(含0.3% Triton X-100)室温1 h封闭非特异性位点;加入抗pJNK(1:1 000)/抗GFAP(1:5 000)的一抗(Santa Cruz公司),转入4℃冰箱中孵育1~2 d;用0.1 mol/L PBS彻底漂洗切片后滴加FITC(1:200)/Cy3标记(1:200)的二抗(Santa Cruz公司),37℃下反应1 h;最后流水冲洗3 min终止反应,甘油封片,在Nikon显微镜下观察并拍照。统计10个高倍视野下的pJNK阳性神经元总量作为阳性神经元数量。应用CCD Spot软件对图像进行分析。

1.6 统计学处理 应用SPSS 11.0软件包进行数据处理,行为学实验数据及阳性神经元数量均用 $\bar{x} \pm s$ 表示,采用重复测量数据方差分析方法,组间比较行方差分析。 $P < 0.05$ 表示差异有统计学意义。

2 结果

2.1 各组大鼠痛反应阈值的变化 Sham组大鼠术后痛反应阈值变化不明显;SNL组大鼠痛反应阈值逐渐降低,术后第3天时达到最低,PWMT为(3.4 ± 1.5) g,痛敏持续到实验结束;SNL组大鼠痛反应阈值和Sham组相比差异有统计学意义($P < 0.01$)。4 mg/kg Eda组术后1~5 d的PWMT明显高于SNL组($P < 0.01$);在术后第6天,Eda组与SNL组PWMT相比差异无统计学意义($P > 0.05$),结果如图1所示。

2.2 L₅ DRG中pJNK阳性神经元的表达 Sham组、SNL组与Eda组大鼠分别于脊神经结扎后24 h取材,观察损伤侧L₅DRG切片,可见pJNK主要表达在小细胞神经元。SNL组pJNK阳性神经元数量(124 ± 5)明显高于Sham组(46 ± 4),两者存在明显的统计学差异($P < 0.01$,图2);Eda组pJNK阳性神经元数量(93 ± 8)明显低于SNL组,两组相比差异有统计学意义($P < 0.01$)。3组大鼠DRG损伤侧L₄及对侧L₅pJNK阳性神经元数量无统计学差异(数据未显示)。

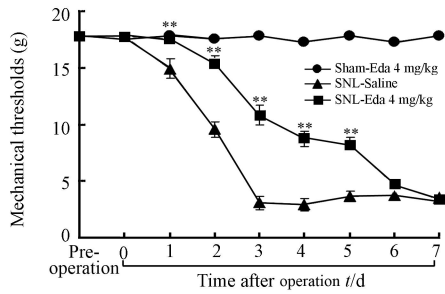


图1 大鼠造模后机械痛阈反应阈值的变化

Fig 1 Changes of mechanical response thresholds of rats after ligation

** $P < 0.01$ vs SNL group. $n = 10, \bar{x} \pm s$

2.3 脊髓星型胶质细胞中 pJNK 的表达 Sham 组、SNL 组与 Eda 组大鼠分别于脊神经结扎 3 d 后取材,观察切片(图 3)。免疫双荧光显示 pJNK 在脊髓中只在星型胶质细胞(GFAP 标记)中表达,并且在脊神经损伤后,GFAP/pJNK 阳性细胞在损伤侧脊髓(ipilateral cord)表达上调,数量为 41 ± 4 ,明显高于 Sham 组($25 \pm 3, P < 0.01$);Eda 组的损伤侧 GFAP/pJNK 阳性细胞数量为 32 ± 2 ,与 SNL 组比较差异有统计学意义($P < 0.05$)。免疫酶标显示 pJNK 主要表达于脊髓第 5 层。

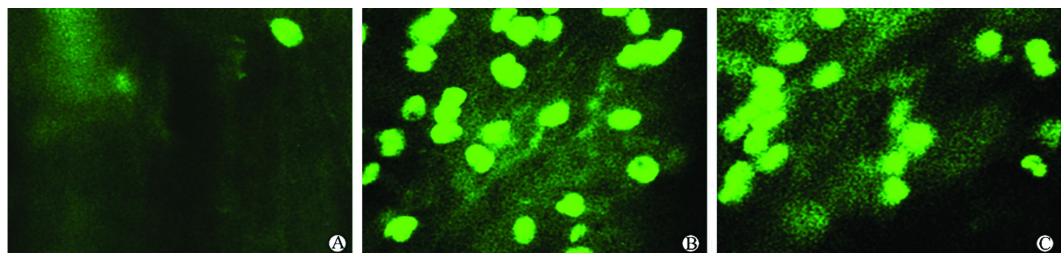


图2 大鼠 L5 DRG 中 pJNK 阳性神经元的表达

Fig 2 pJNK-positive neurons in dorsal root ganglia in three groups

A: Sham group; B: SNL group; C: Eda group. Original magnification: $\times 200$

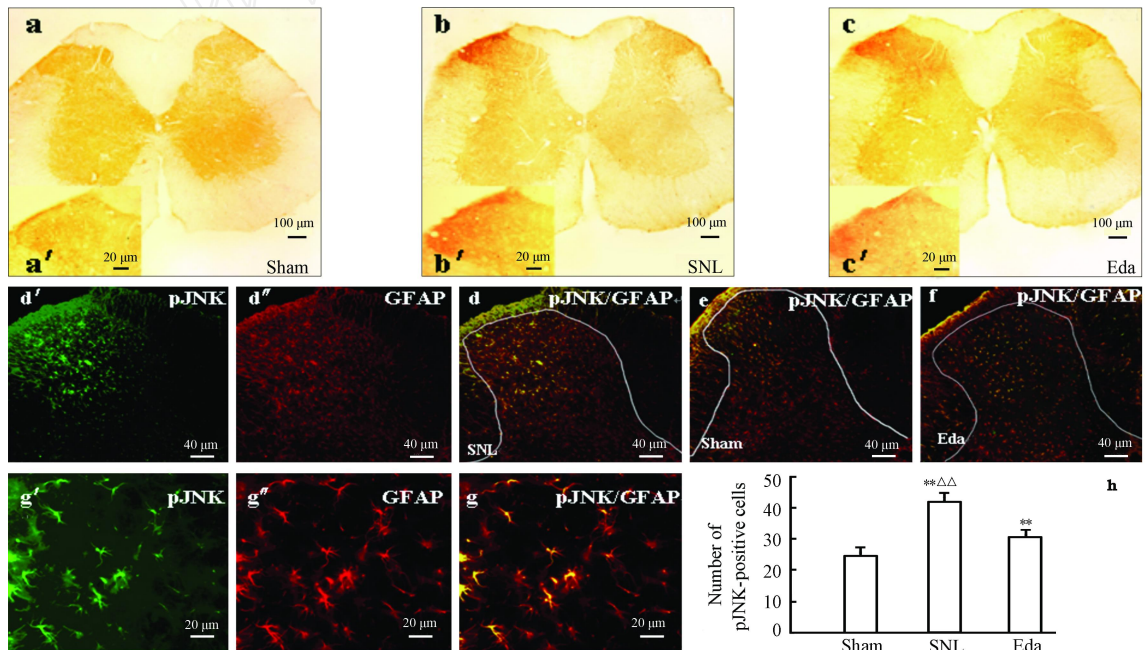


图3 3组大鼠脊髓星型胶质细胞中 pJNK 的表达分布

Fig 3 Expression of pJNK-positive neurons in spinal astrocytes in three groups

a, b, c: Immunohistochemistry for enzyme-mediated detection reveals increases in pJNK levels in the ipsilateral spinal dorsal horn (L_5) 3 day after SNL and the pJNK levels were reduced after edaravone treatment. a, b, and c are the magnitudes of a, b, and c. Double immunofluorescence shows that pJNK (green, d) is completely colocalized with astroglia marker GFAP (red, d) in the medial superficial dorsal horn. Two single-stained images were merged (d, g, g, g: High magnification image from d, d, d, demonstrating the colocalization of pJNK and GFAP. d, e, f reveal pJNK-positive cells in the ipsilateral spinal astrocytes in the three group and the number of pJNK-positive cells decreased in preemptive edaravone treatment group compared with Sham group. h: Quantification analysis of pJNK-positive neurons of spinal astrocytes in three groups. ** $P < 0.01$ by ANOVA compared with Sham group, $P < 0.01$ compared with Eda group. $n = 6, \bar{x} \pm s$

3 讨论

氧自由基是氧在还原时,因接受电子不足所产生的一类高能态不稳定物质,是具有高度化学反应活性的含氧基团,包括:超氧阴离子自由基($O_2^{\cdot-}$)、羟自由基(HO^{\cdot})、氢过氧自由基(HOO^{\cdot})和有机过氧自由基(ROO^{\cdot})等,以上自由基与高活性的单线态氧(O_2)、过氧化氢(H_2O_2)统称为活性氧(reactive oxygen species,ROS)。与生物机体有关的自由基中,ROS最为重要。它们一旦产生,可以相互转化,发生连锁反应,导致大分子(主要为脂质、蛋白质和DNA)的氧化损伤,这些损伤也是衰老、退行性疾病、心血管疾病和肿瘤形成的基础^[9-10]。正常情况下,细胞内ROS的存在是有益的,它可以防止病原体的入侵,并且ROS水平受体内酶的精细调控。但是在病理情况下,ROS水平的升高可以导致细胞兴奋性的改变甚至导致细胞的死亡。新近的观点^[12,11-12]认为ROS含量异常增高也是发生神经病理性疼痛的原因之一,清除过多的ROS可以有效治疗神经病理性疼痛。

依达拉奉在体内以阴离子形态存在,提供一个电子给自由基,本身转化为edaravone基。edaravone基活性很低,水解为2-氧-3(苯基)-丁酸。因此,依达拉奉可以清除体内自由基。已经证实^[13]依达拉奉在细胞系和非细胞体系中作为一个好的抗氧化剂可以抑制脂质过氧化反应,降低毒性自由基含量,因此从理论上依达拉奉可以产生镇痛作用。本实验结果表明,给予依达拉奉日用量8 mg/kg处理后,随后几天检测的大鼠痛反应阈值明显高于SNL组,镇痛效应持续5 d。因此认为在疼痛急性期应用依达拉奉对减轻随后的痛敏是有益的。

在疼痛传递调制过程中,细胞外伤害性感受信号向胞核内转导信息时,需要细胞内信号分子的参与,丝裂原活化蛋白激酶(MAPK)级联反应是细胞内主要的共同信号转导系统,MAPK属于丝氨酸/苏氨酸蛋白激酶家族,能够将胞外刺激信号转导成胞内的转录和翻译后效应。MAPK信号转导通路采用高度保守的三级激酶级联传递信号:细胞外刺激如自由基含量升高后可以激活MAPKKK(MAPK kinase kinase),转而激活MAPKK(MAPK kinase),然后通过双位点即苏氨酸和酪氨酸同时磷酸化激活MAPK。激活的MAPK可通过磷酸化转录因子、细胞骨架相关蛋白、酶类等多种底物来调节包括疼痛敏化在内的多种病理生理过程^[14-18]。

MAPK家族包括胞外信号调节蛋白激酶(extra-

cellular signal-regulated kinase, ERK)、p38MAPK(其命名缘于该物质克隆编码是由360个氨基酸组成的38 000蛋白)、c-Jun氨基末端激酶(JNK)和ERK5。Zhuang等^[19]通过研究发现,在SNL神经痛模型中,JNK的磷酸化介导了DRG中初级感觉神经元和脊髓星型胶质细胞的活化,通过关键基因产物的转录调节导致持续性神经病理性疼痛。用阻断剂阻断JNK的表达后,大鼠痛反应阈值增高,提示JNK参与了疼痛的形成,是痛觉敏化的物质基础。本实验研究发现,脊神经损伤后,DRG和脊髓中JNK的表达上调,在背根神经节中,JNK主要表达于感觉小细胞,而在脊髓,只表达于星型胶质细胞,亦即JNK通路是通过激活DRG中感觉神经元的表达从而影响神经元的兴奋性;而在脊髓,是通过星形胶质细胞中JNK的活化对神经损伤发生的级联反应,从而影响痛觉病理的产生。既然ROS能够激活JNK,而后者参与了神经痛发生和发展,那么从理论上自由基清除剂可以降低氧化应激反应,减少氧化损伤,从而减少JNK介导痛敏形成的物质基础,最终增高痛反应阈值。事实上,本实验应用依达拉奉干预后,无论是DRG中,还是脊髓星型胶质细胞内的pJNK含量都出现下调,提示依达拉奉的镇痛机制之一是通过抑制DRG和脊髓中JNK通路的表达而产生镇痛效应。

总之,我们的实验证明依达拉奉在神经病理性疼痛的急性期用药,对于缓解疼痛是非常有益的。虽然我们目前对依达拉奉确切的镇痛机制仍不太了解,但依达拉奉对DRG和脊髓中JNK通路的抑制可能是其作用机制之一。

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中草药名称中文、拉丁文及英文对照表(二十八)

汉语拼音名	中文名	拉丁名	英文名
Yizhijian	一支箭	<i>Herba Ophioglossi</i>	Adder's Tongue Herb
Yizhiren	益智仁	<i>Fructus Alpiniae Oxyphyllae</i>	Sharpleaf Galangal Fruit
Yizhixiang	一支香	<i>Herba Veronicae</i>	Linear Leaf Speedwell
Yousongjie	油松节	<i>Lignum Pini Nodi</i>	Pine Nodular Branch
Yuanbaocao	元宝草	<i>Herba Hyperici Sampsonii</i>	Sampson St. John'swort Herb
Yuanhua	芫花	<i>Flos Genkwa</i>	Lilac Daphne Flower Bud
Yuansuizi	芫荽子	<i>Fructus Coriandri</i>	Coriander Fruit
Yuanzhi	远志	<i>Cortex et Radix Polygalae</i>	Thinleaf Milkwort Root-bark
Yubiecao	鱼鳖草	<i>Herba Lepidogrammitidis Drymoglossoidis</i>	Lepidogrammitis Herb
Yuejihua	月季花	<i>Flos Rosae Chinensis</i>	Chinese Rose Flower
Yuganzi	余甘子	<i>Fructus Phyllanthi</i>	Emblic Leafflower Fruit
Yujin	郁金	<i>Radix Curcumae</i>	Turmeric Root-tuber
Yuliren	郁李仁	<i>Semen Pruni</i>	Chinese Dwarf Cherry Seed / Dwarf Flowering Cherry Seed / Longstalk Peach Seed
Yumixu	玉米须	<i>Stigma Maydis</i>	Corn Stigma
Yunaoshi	鱼脑石	<i>Asteriscus Pseudosciaenae</i>	Yellow Croaker Ear-stone
Yunmu	云母	<i>Muscovitum</i>	Mus Covite
Yunxiangcao	芸香草	<i>Herba Cymbopogonis</i>	Remote Lemongrass Herb
Yuteng	鱼藤	<i>Radix seu Caulis Derridis Trifoliatae</i>	Trifoliolate Jewelvine Root or Stem