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• 论 著 •

皮质下梗死患者认知障碍与供血动脉狭窄的相关性分析

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[摘要] **目的** 分析皮质下梗死致血管性认知障碍(vascular cognitive impairment, VCI)患者的颅内血管病变情况, 探讨VCI可能的病因与机制。 **方法** 连续入选2012年12月至2014年2月我院皮质下梗死的住院患者, 排除影响认知测评的患者, 根据VCI诊断标准分为VCI组49例、无认知障碍组(NVCI)42例, 收集临床资料及体格检查、实验室检测结果, 采用蒙特利尔认知评估(Montreal Cognitive Assessment, MoCA)量表评分, 头颅CT血管造影(computed tomography angiography, CTA)或磁共振血管造影(magnetic resonance angiography, MRA)评估脑供血动脉。 **结果** 皮质下梗死的VCI患者TOAST分型VCI组大动脉粥样硬化型24例(48.98%), NVCI组大动脉粥样硬化型22例(52.38%), 两组差异无统计学意义。CTA或MRA评估血管提示VCI组血管狭窄患者37例(75.51%), 颅内血管狭窄占75.25%, 其中大脑中动脉28.71%; 单一血管病变患者18.37%, 多血管病变患者57.14%。NVCI组血管狭窄患者34例(80.95%), 其中颅内血管病变占60%(大脑中动脉32%); 单一血管病变患者26.19%, 多血管病变患者54.76%, 病变血管类型与VCI组差异有统计学意义($P < 0.05$)。VCI患者每例颅内血管狭窄数分别为0~6支, 平均狭窄数为 (1.51 ± 1.67) 支, 患者认知评分与血管狭窄数负相关($r_s = -0.283, P = 0.048$)。 **结论** 与常见的小血管病因不同, 皮质下梗死伴认知障碍患者多见大动脉粥样硬化, 提示进一步研究小梗死灶的大动脉病因有利于血管性认知障碍的预防。

[关键词] 脑梗死; 皮质下梗死; 血管性认知障碍; 颅内动脉硬化

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Relationship between cognitive impairment and cerebrovascular stenosis in patients with subcortical infarction

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[Abstract] **Objective** To investigate the intracranial vascular lesions in patients with subcortical infarction-induced vascular cognitive impairment (VCI), and to investigate the etiology and mechanisms of VCI. **Methods** Inpatients with subcortical infarction in our hospital were enrolled in this study from Nov. 2012 to Feb. 2014, with those unable to complete the cognitive evaluation eliminated. According to the diagnostic criteria of VCI the patients were divided into two groups: 49 with cognitive impairment (VCI group) and 42 without cognitive impairment (NVCI group). The clinical data, physical examinations, laboratory tests, and the Montreal Cognitive Assessment (MoCA) scale scores were collected. Cerebral blood vessels were assessed by CT angiography or magnetic resonance angiography (MRA). **Results** The results showed that, according to TOAST classification, VCI group had 24 (48.98%) patients with large artery atherosclerosis (LAA) and NVCI group had 22 (52.38%), showing no significant difference between the two groups. CTA or MRA indicated that 37 (75.51%) patients in VCI group had vascular stenosis, with 75.25% of the 37 patients having intracranial vascular stenosis and 28.71% with middle cerebral artery stenosis. Patients with single cerebral artery stenosis accounted for 18.37% and those with the multiple artery stenosis accounted for 57.14%. CTA or MRA indicated that 34 (80.95%) patients in NVCI group had vascular

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stenosis, with 60% having intracranial vascular stenosis, including 32% with middle cerebral artery stenosis, 26.19% with single cerebral artery stenosis, and 54.76% with the multiple artery stenosis, with the latter two data being significantly different from the VCI group ($P < 0.05$). In VCI group, the number of intracranial vascular stenosis branches ranged 0-6, with a mean of (1.51 ± 1.67) , and a negative relation was found between numbers of stenosis arteries and MoCA scores in patients of VCI group ($r_s = -0.283$, $P < 0.05$). **Conclusion** Different from the common causes of small blood vessels, LAA is the most common etiology of subcortical VCI, which implied that exploring the LAA causes of small lesions is crucial for the prevention of VCI in Chinese patients.

[Key words] cerebral infarction; subcortical infarction; vascular cognitive impairment; intracranial atherosclerosis

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血管性认知障碍 (vascular cognitive impairment, VCI)^[1]是指由高血压病、糖尿病等各种脑血管危险因素或脑血管病本身导致的认知功能损害,包括轻度认知功能损害(mild cognitive impairment, MCI)到痴呆的一组临床综合征^[2]。VCI病因多样,发病机制各异,但是皮质下梗死、脑白质变性或二者同时存在引起的VCI最为常见,占全部VCI患者的50%~76%^[3]。

以往病因研究多重视VCI的小血管病病因^[4],较少关注颅内大动脉损害,然而针对小血管病变的预防缺乏有效的手段,VCI的发病率居高不下。随着神经影像学的发展,颅内大动脉病变的评估手段有了很大的进步,但目前尚未见VCI与颅内大动脉病变相关性的报道。本研究拟通过皮质下梗死伴与不伴认知障碍的两组患者,分析比较皮质下梗死伴VCI患者的颅内血管病变情况,为VCI的预防和早期诊断提供依据。

1 资料和方法

1.1 研究对象 连续入组2012年12月至2014年2月第二军医大学长海医院脑血管病中心皮质下脑梗死患者。根据中华医学会神经病学分会痴呆与认知障碍学组写作组2011年制定的《血管性认知障碍诊治指南》^[5]标准,经过入组标准与排除标准,将患者分为VCI组(49例)与不伴认知障碍的皮质下梗死组(NVCI组,42例)。

VCI组入组标准:符合《血管性认知障碍诊治指南》推荐标准;患者或家属知情同意。NVCI组入组标准:患者无认知障碍主诉或知情者报告无认知损害;客观检查不存在认知损害的证据;采用北京版蒙特利尔认知评估(Montreal Cognitive Assessment, MoCA)量表评估为无认知损害;患者或家属知情同意。

排除标准:有其他可能影响认知或意识状态的脑部疾病(如出血性脑血管疾病、炎性脑病、脑积水、阿尔茨海默病或其他类型的痴呆、颅脑创伤、神经脱髓鞘疾病等其他神经系统疾病);有妨碍评估正常进行的严重神经功能障碍(如意识障碍、严重视听障碍、失语、失用、严重肢体功能障碍等);有可能影响认知的全身性疾病或异常(如恶性肿瘤、精神疾病、自身免疫性疾病、物质依赖或中毒史、长期使用精神活性物质等);体内有金属、电子或磁性植入物等不能行MRI检查者。

1.2 资料采集

1.2.1 一般资料 收集病史以及体格检查、神经系统体检、实验室检查结果。

1.2.2 认知评估 认知障碍采用MoCA进行评估,截断值采用Guo等^[6]对上海市神经内科记忆门诊调查结果划定认知损害的临界值:受教育时间5~8年者,21分;受教育时间9~12年,22分;受教育时间大于12年,23分。高于相应分组的患者认为无认知损害。以上任务均由两位具有心理测量师资格的神经内科医生以及1名精神医学专业研究生同时测评。

1.2.3 神经影像学评估 头颅血管狭窄主要采用头颅CT血管造影(computed tomography angiography, CTA)或磁共振血管造影(magnetic resonance angiography, MRA)检查。头颅MRA为3.0 T GE HDxt MR仪检测。头颅CTA采用东芝Aquilion One 320排容积CT机检查。根据头颅MRA或CTA结果,动脉血管狭窄程度测量方法参照华法林-阿司匹林治疗症状性颅内动脉狭窄研究WASID (Warfarin-Aspirin Symptomatic Intracranial Disease)方法^[7]的标准测量:测量血管狭窄远端正常动脉、狭窄段、狭窄近端直径及狭窄血管的长度。狭窄处远端正常动脉狭窄率(%) = $(1 - \text{狭窄处直径} / \text{狭$

窄远端正常直径)×100%。血管狭窄程度分为:狭窄率小于50%,轻度;50%~70%,中度;狭窄率70%~99%,重度;100%,闭塞^[8]。

高分辨率MRI对颅内血管管壁成像评估:全部评估选择3.0 T GE HDxt MR机,采用GE 8通道头部线圈,扫描范围包括颅底到胼胝体层面。具体步骤如下:首先对患者进行DWI评估,以评估缺血

性病灶大小及梗死程度;然后对责任血管进行MRA检查,评估血管狭窄程度。根据3D-TOF MRA的结果对狭窄血管进行定位,对患者目标血管(即大脑中动脉M1段)由内至外依次采用12层(层厚2 mm,层间距0.5 mm)垂直于血管长轴评估血管壁。扫描序列包括:STIR、T₁WI、T₂WI及T₁WI+C,具体扫描参数见表1。整个成像过程时间约为30~40 min。

表1 MRI各序列的扫描参数

Tab 1 Imaging parameters for multi-sequence 3.0 Tesla HR-MRI scan

Sequence	TE t/ms	TR t/ms	FOV d/mm	NOS n	ST l/mm
3D-TOF	3.4	29	100	SSLab	1.2
STIR	56.2	3 700	100	12	2
T ₂ WI	49	2 883	100	12	2
T ₁ WI	15.8	567	100	12	2
T ₁ WI+C	15.8	567	100	12	2

TR: Repetition time; TE: Echo time; FOV: Field of view; 3D-TOF: Three dimensional time of flight magnetic resonance angiography; STIR: Short time inversion recovery; T₂WI: T₂-weighted imaging; T₁WI: T₁-weighted imaging; C: Contrast-enhanced; NOS: Number of slices; ST: Slice thickness

1.3 统计学处理 采用SPSS 18.0进行数据处理。计量资料采用 $\bar{x} \pm s$ 表示,两样本比较采用 t 检验,三样本比较用单因素方差分析;计数资料采用百分率表示,组间比较采用 χ^2 检验。血管狭窄程度或数目与MoCA评分如符合正态分布,则应用直线相关分析,如不符合正态分布,则应用Spearman秩相关分析。检验水准(α)为0.05。

2 结果

2.1 两组患者一般情况比较 根据前述VCI诊断标准和排除标准,共49例VCI患者纳入研究(VCI组),其中男性33例,女性16例,年龄44~85岁,平均年龄(68.43±10.56)岁,教育程度(10.02±3.33)年。NVCI患者42例,其中女性17例,男性25例,年龄(63.90±10.56)岁,平均教育时间(10.51±3.39)年。两组在受教育程度、年龄、性别分布差异均无统计学意义。

2.2 两组患者的病因TOAST分型 VCI组患者TOAST分型如下:大动脉粥样硬化型24例(48.98%),小血管闭塞型19例(38.78%),心源性1例(2.04%),其他原因2例(4.08%),原因不明3例(6.12%);NVCI相应分型分别为:22例

(52.38%)、14例(33.33%)、0例(0%)、2例(4.76%)、4例(9.52%)。两组患者均多见大动脉粥样硬化型(LAA),病因学分布差异无统计学意义。

2.3 VCI与NVCI患者脑血管评估结果 VCI患者检测发现血管狭窄患者37例,不同程度狭窄血管共101支,狭窄血管涉及到双侧锁骨下、颈总动脉、颈内动脉、大脑前、大脑中、大脑后动脉、椎动脉以及基底动脉等血管。按颅内外不同部位可知,颅内和颅外狭窄血管分别为76支和25支,分别占75.25%和24.75%。根据不同狭窄程度可知,轻、中、重和闭塞血管分别为59、26、8、8支,分别占58.42%、25.74%、7.92%、7.92%。前循环和后循环狭窄血管分别为56支和45支。单一血管病患者9例,占18.37%;多血管病变患者28例,占57.14%(表2)。

NVCI组患者血管狭窄34例(80.95%),涉及75支血管狭窄,颅内血管病变45支,占60%,其中大脑中动脉23支(30.67%);单一血管病患者19例,占26.19%,多血管病变患者15例,占54.76%(表3)。与NVCI组相比,VCI患者多发颅内动脉狭窄者更多见,且两组差异具有统计学意义($\chi^2 = 4.166, P < 0.05$)。

表2 VCI患者脑血管狭窄分布情况

Tab 2 Distribution of stenosis vessels in vascular cognitive impairment patients

Artery	Degree of cerebrovascular stenosis				Total
	Mild	Moderate	Severe	Occlusion	
ACA	2	0	0	2	4
L	1	0	0	1	2
R	1	0	0	1	2
MCA	12	12	2	3	29
L	4	6	1	2	13
R	8	6	1	1	16
PCA	11	6	3	0	20
L	5	4	2	0	11
R	6	2	1	0	9
VA	11	3	1	1	16
L	4	3	1	1	9
R	7	0	0	0	7
BA	5	1	0	1	7
ICA	10	4	1	1	16
L	4	3	1	1	9
R	6	1	0	0	7
CA	6	0	1	0	7
L	3	0	0	0	3
R	3	0	1	0	4
SA	2	0	0	0	2
L	2	0	0	0	2
R	0	0	0	0	0
Total	59	26	8	8	101

VCI: Vascular cognitive impairment; ACA: Anterior cerebral artery; MCA: Middle cerebral artery; VA: Vertebral artery; BA: Basilar artery; ICA: Internal carotid artery; CA: Carotid artery; SA: Subclavian artery; L: Left; R: Right

表3 NVCI患者脑血管狭窄分布情况

Tab 3 Distribution of stenosis vessels in non-vascular cognitive impairment patients

Artery	Degree of cerebrovascular stenosis				Total
	Mild	Moderate	Severe	Occlusion	
ACA	2	2	0	0	4
L	0	2	0	0	2
R	2	0	0	0	2
MCA	8	5	7	3	23
L	4	3	4	3	14
R	4	2	3	0	9
PCA	9	1	0	0	10
L	6	0	0	0	6
R	3	1	0	0	4
VA	1	3	0	0	4
L	1	3	0	0	4
R	0	0	0	0	0
BA	2	0	0	0	2
ICA	14	3	1	2	20
L	8	3	1	2	14
R	6	0	0	0	6
CA	4	7	0	0	11
L	2	3	0	0	5
R	2	4	0	0	6
SA	0	0	0	0	0
L	0	0	0	0	0
R	0	0	0	0	0
Total	40	22	8	5	75

NVCI: Non vascular cognitive impairment; ACA: Anterior cerebral artery; MCA: Middle cerebral artery; VA: Vertebral artery; BA: Basilar artery; ICA: Internal carotid artery; CA: Carotid artery; SA: Subclavian artery; L: Left; R: Right

2.4 VCI 组认知障碍与脑供血动脉狭窄数目的相关性 统计每例患者颅内血管狭窄数目, 分别为 0~6 支, 平均(1.51±1.67)支。因血管狭窄数目不符合正态分布, 故采用 Spearman 秩相关($r = -0.283, P < 0.05$; 图 1)。结果说明: VCI 患者认知损害程度与颅内血管狭窄数目有关。

2.5 VCI 组认知障碍与脑供血动脉血管狭窄程度的相关性以及斑块稳定性 VCI 患者认知障碍与颅内动脉狭窄程度的相关性。根据血管狭窄程度对 45 例患者颅内血管进行分级, 0: 无狭窄; 1: 轻度狭窄; 2: 中度狭窄; 3: 重度狭窄; 4: 闭塞。相关分析显示, 患者认知损害与 VCI 患者血管狭窄程度无统计学意义($r = -0.046, P > 0.05$)。

为进一步评估狭窄处斑块性质与稳定性, 随机选择脑血管不同狭窄程度的患者进行了管壁成像检查, 包括 1 例基底动脉管壁成像检查, 4 例大脑中动脉管壁成像检查。共完成 7 支大脑中动脉、2 支椎动脉和 1 支基底动脉检测, 其中轻度狭窄血管 4 支,

中度狭窄血管 2 支, 闭塞 3 支。在这 9 支狭窄的血管中, 发现斑块 6 处, 其中 4 处斑块存在 T₁+C 相强化, 提示斑块不稳定, 占狭窄血管斑块的 66.67%。具体结果如表 4。

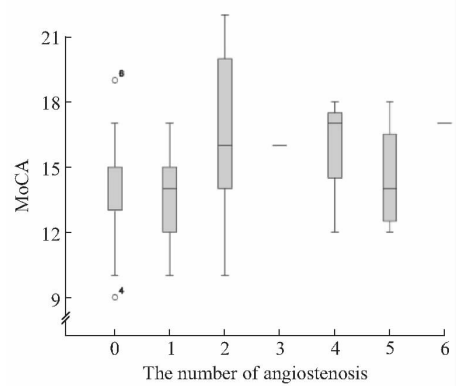


图 1 血管性认知障碍组认知损害(MoCA 评分)与脑供血动脉狭窄数目的相关性分析

Fig 1 Correlation analysis of MoCA score of VCI patients with the number of stenosis cerebral vessels

MoCA: Montreal cognitive assessment; VCI: Vascular cognitive impairment

表 4 颅内血管管壁成像结果

Tab 4 Intracranial vascular wall imaging results at 3.0 T high-resolution magnetic resonance imaging

Patient No.	Sex/age (year)	Offending artery	Stenosis degree /location	Plaque distribution	Character of plaque	T ₂ WI	STIR	T ₁ WI	T ₁ WI+C
1	M/56	L-MCA	Occlusion/MCA1	Proximal MCA1	Long plaques	Mixed and middling signal	Mixed and middling signal	Middling signal	Enhancement
1	M/56	R-MCA	Mild/MCA1	Inferior wall of proximal MCA1	Arc plaques	Mixed and heterogeneous			
2	M/74	R-MCA	Occlusion/MCA2	(-)					
3	F/66	L-MCA	Mild/Proximal MCA2	(-)					Enhanced
		R-MCA	Mild/MCA2	(-)					Slightly enhanced
4	M/44	L-MCA	Moderate/MCA1	The lower branches of MCA2	Arc plaques	Higher signal			
		R-MCA	Moderate/MCA1	MCA1	Heterogeneous plaques	Mixed and slightly higher signal	Slightly higher signal	Middling signal	Obviously enhanced
5	M/73	L-VA	Occlusion/intracalvarium	Terminal intracalvarium	Columnar	Higher signal	Higher signal	Slightly higher signal	Heterogeneous density and obvious enhancement surface
		BA	Mild/the junction of R-VA	The junction of R-VA	Shallow plaque	Slightly higher signal		Middling signal	Slightly higher surface

STIR: Short time inversion recovery; T₂WI: T₂-weighted imaging; T₁WI: T₁-weighted imaging; C: Contrast-enhanced; M: Male; F: Female; MCA: Middle cerebral artery; VA: Vertebral artery; BA: Basilar artery; L: Left; R: Right

3 讨论

VCI 是一组存在不同程度认知功能损害的临床综合征,皮质梗死以相应的脑区功能受损引起的认知缺损为主要表现,皮质下梗死和脑白质变性以额叶-皮质下环路损害为主要特征,主要损害患者的执行功能,表现为抽象思维、概念形成和转换、信息处理速度等认知领域的损害,为最常见的 VCI 类型^[9-10]。

在 VCI 的发病机制方面,国外有研究认为颅内小血管病变为 VCI 最主要的发病机制,约为 50%,而大血管病变约占 21.4%^[11]。在本研究中,VCI 患者 TOAST 分型中大动脉粥样硬化型占 48.98%,为最主要的病因分型。关于脑供血大动脉粥样硬化,不同人种具有不同的好发部位,白种人常见颅外颈总动脉段(33%)^[12],而 Wang 等^[13]最近报道,华人最常见的脑供血动脉硬化为颅内大动脉(46.6%),因此,与欧美白色人种不同,中国等亚洲人群主要的卒中亚型是颅内动脉狭窄^[14]。近年来,韩国的一项研究表明,颅内动脉硬化是导致脑白质变性的最重要的因素^[15]。2014 年 Park 等^[16]对 679 例韩国卒中患者的研究发现,颅内动脉硬化是韩国卒中患者白质变性进展的独立危险因素。造成东西方 VCI 病因不同的原因也可能与入组筛选方式、有无颅内血管检测评估等有关。一些相关研究如 SPS3 等往往采用腔隙性脑梗死的标准,将患者神经影像学入组标准定义为磁共振卒中病灶直径小于 2 cm 作为入选标准,这样一方面 VCI 研究结果会产生选择偏倚,造成小血管闭塞型所占 VCI 比例被夸大;另一方面缺少血管狭窄程度和斑块评估,一部分患者病灶小于 2 cm,但并非是小动脉闭塞引起,也可能是大动脉斑块延展导致^[17-19]。

在我们的研究中,VCI 患者半数以上具有颅内动脉狭窄的影像学表现,其中,大脑中动脉系统病变是最主要的血管病变类型。经过抽样行管壁成像检测,发现大脑中动脉斑块以不稳定斑块为主。因此,颅内大血管(如 MCA)斑块延展或动脉到动脉栓塞引起的小动脉闭塞可能是 VCI 真正多见的病因。小血管事件可能只是继发于颅内大动脉狭窄的一个现象。

本研究提示,造成大动脉粥样硬化的危险因素

在国人仍然是 VCI 的重要原因,而颅内大动脉斑块稳定性可能是 VCI 发生和发展的重要环节。因此,早期干预颅内大动脉狭窄,并研究颅内大动脉斑块的特征及利于斑块稳定性的治疗,对国人 VCI 的防治非常重要。下一步我们将通过脑灌注与大样本的管壁成像检测,来阐明动脉硬化对 VCI 的影响。

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