

COX-2 和 c-erbB-2 在乳腺癌中的表达及其相互关系

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[摘要] **目的:**研究乳腺癌中环氧化酶 2(COX-2)和 c-erbB-2 的表达及其相互关系。**方法:**采用免疫组织化学法检测 48 例乳腺癌组织中 COX-2 与 c-erbB-2 的表达情况,分析其相互关系及与乳腺癌临床病理学特征间的联系。**结果:**乳腺癌中 COX-2 表达阳性率达 60.4%(29/48),肿块>2 cm、淋巴结转移阳性、雌激素受体(ER)阴性、孕激素受体(PR)阴性者 COX-2 表达明显高于肿块<2 cm、淋巴结转移阴性、ER 阳性、PR 阳性者,而 COX-2 表达与患者年龄、肿瘤病理类型及肿瘤分期无关。c-erbB-2 的表达阳性率为 39.6%(19/48),淋巴结转移阳性及激素受体阴性者 c-erbB-2 表达明显高于淋巴结转移阴性及激素受体阳性者,而与年龄、肿块大小、病理学类型无关。在 c-erbB-2 阳性的乳腺癌患者中,COX-2 表达阳性率为 84.2%(16/19),而 c-erbB-2 阴性的乳腺癌患者中,COX-2 阳性表达率为 44.8%(13/29),两者相比差异显著($P=0.006$)。**结论:**COX-2 在乳腺癌中高水平表达且与 c-erbB-2 表达有关,提示乳腺癌中 COX-2 与 c-erbB-2 存在互相调控机制,共同促进肿瘤的发生和发展。

[关键词] 乳腺肿瘤;环氧化酶 2;c-erbB-2

[中图分类号] R 737.9 **[文献标识码]** A **[文章编号]** 0258-879X(2006)05-0503-04

Expression of cyclooxygenase-2 and c-erbB-2 in human breast cancer and their relationship

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[ABSTRACT] **Objective:** To investigate the expression and correlation of cyclooxygenase-2 (COX-2) and c-erbB-2 in human breast cancer. **Methods:** The expressions of COX-2 and c-erbB-2 in 48 breast cancer patients with breast cancer were detected with immunohistochemistry examination and was analyzed. The relationship between their expression and the clinicopathologic characters of breast cancer was also analyzed. **Results:** The positive rate of COX-2 was 60.4% (29/48) in these patients; the expression was higher in patients with tumor size larger than 2 cm, lymph node metastasis, and negative expression of ER or PR, but was not related with the ages, the pathologic types and the TNM stages. Expression of c-erbB-2 was identified in 39.6% (19/48) of these patients; the expression was significantly higher in patients with lymph node metastasis or negative expression of ER and PR, but was not related with the ages, the sizes and the pathologic types. COX-2 was positive in 84.2% (16/19) of patients positive of c-erbB-2 and in 44.8% (13/29) of patients negative of c-erbB-2, with significant difference found between the 2 figures($P=0.006$). **Conclusion:** The high expression of COX-2 in breast cancer is related to the expression of c-erbB-2, suggesting that they may regulate each other and jointly contribute to the tumorigenesis and progression of breast cancer.

[KEY WORDS] breast neoplasms; cyclooxygenase-2; c-erbB-2; immunohistochemistry

[Acad J Sec Mil Med Univ, 2006, 27(5): 503-506]

环氧化酶(COX)又称前列腺素内过氧化合成酶,兼有环氧化酶和过氧化酶双重功能,是催化花生四烯酸合成前列腺素的限速酶。目前发现哺乳动物 COX 至少有 2 种同工酶,即 COX-1 和 COX-2。COX-1 是结构型酶,体内大多数正常组织都表达,其催化产生的前列腺素参与维持机体正常的生理机能。而 COX-2 是诱导型酶,其表达在正常生理状态下高度限制于某些组织,不易检测。但在生长因子或细胞因子、内毒素、激素、促肿瘤剂及癌基因等多种刺激因素的作用下可迅速诱导性表达。国外流行病学研究提示,长期服用 COX 抑制剂——非类固醇类抗炎药(NSAIDs)超过 10~15 年者,结肠癌发病

率下降 40%~50%,而家族性腺瘤性息肉病患者长期服用小剂量 NSAIDs 后,结肠息肉数量和大小均明显降低^[1]。这表明 COX-2 在恶性肿瘤发生、发展和转移过程中起重要作用。c-erbB-2(HER-2/neu)基因是目前研究最多的乳腺癌基因,其表达产物 c-erbB-2 受体是人类表皮生长因子受体超家族成员,具有酪氨酸激酶活性,也是目前已经公认的乳腺癌的预后因子和预测因子。我们检测了 COX-2 和 c-erbB-2 在乳腺癌中的表达情况,以探讨 COX-2 在乳腺癌发生、发展中的作用及其与 c-erbB-2 的关系。

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1 材料和方法

1.1 临床资料 收集我院 2003 年 10 月至 2004 年 10 月行手术治疗的乳腺癌患者癌组织标本共 48 例,年龄 31~79 岁,平均 57.1 岁。其中浸润性导管癌 36 例,浸润性小叶癌 6 例,分泌脂质癌 2 例,黏液腺癌、腺鳞癌、髓样癌和乳头状癌各 1 例,TNM 分期按美国肿瘤联合会标准^[2],其中 I 期 8 例,II 期 32 例,III 期 6 例,IV 期 2 例。所有病例均为女性,术前均未接受过 NSAIDs 治疗以及放、化疗并有完整的临床资料。所有组织于 10% 甲醛溶液中固定,石蜡包埋,4 μm 连续切片,常规 H-E 染色及免疫组化染色明确诊断。

1.2 检测方法 采用免疫组织化学 SP 法检测 COX-2 及 c-erbB-2 表达情况。主要试剂鼠抗人 COX-2 单克隆抗体,鼠抗人 c-erbB-2 单克隆抗体,美国 ZYMED 公司 SP 系列试剂盒,均购自北京中杉金桥生物技术有限公司。具体操作步骤严格参照说明书,以 PBS 代替一抗作为阴性对照,以已知结肠癌 COX-2 阳性染色片作为阳性对照,观察各组 COX-2 及 c-erbB-2 免疫组化染色情况。

1.3 免疫组化结果判断 COX-2 染色以细胞质或

细胞质和核膜同时出现黄色颗粒为阳性,c-erbB-2 染色以细胞膜或细胞质中出现黄色颗粒为阳性。采用半定量积分法^[3]:400 倍镜下连续观察 5 个高倍视野,以无染色细胞或阳性细胞数所占比例 <5% 为 0 分,5%~25% 为 1 分,26%~50% 为 2 分,51%~75% 为 3 分,>75% 为 4 分。染色强度:以无染色为 0 分,淡黄色为 1 分,黄或深黄色为 2 分,褐色或棕褐色为 3 分。两项积分相乘 >4 分为阳性。

1.4 统计学处理 用 SPSS 11.5 统计学软件处理,进行 χ^2 检验。

2 结果

2.1 乳腺癌中 COX-2 的表达 48 例乳腺癌中 29 例 COX-2 表达阳性,阳性率为 60.4%。肿块 >2 cm、淋巴结转移阳性、雌激素受体(ER)阴性、孕激素受体(PR)阴性者 COX-2 表达阳性率明显高于肿块 <2 cm、淋巴结转移阴性、ER 阳性、PR 阳性者,差异有统计学意义($P < 0.05$),而不同年龄(<50 岁与 ≥ 50 岁)、肿瘤病理类型(浸润性导管癌、浸润性小叶癌和其他特殊癌)及肿瘤分期(I/II 期与 III/IV 期)的患者 COX-2 表达阳性率差异无统计学意义。见表 1、图 1A 和 1B。

表 1 乳腺癌中 COX-2 与 c-erbB-2 的表达及其与临床病理特征的关系

Tab 1 Relationship between expression of COX-2 and c-erbB-2 and clinical pathological characters of breast cancer

Clinicopathologic characters	N	COX-2 positive [n(%)]	χ^2	P	c-erbB-2 positive [n(%)]	χ^2	P
Age (year)							
<50	21	14 (66.7)	0.610	0.435	7(33.3)	0.610	0.435
≥ 50	27	15 (55.6)			12(44.4)		
Tumor size(d/cm)							
≤ 2	14	5 (35.7)	5.043	0.025	6(42.9)	0.089	0.766
>2	34	24 (70.6)			13(38.2)		
Lymph node metastasis							
-	33	16 (48.5)	6.286	0.012	8(24.2)	10.39	0.001
+	15	13 (86.7)			11(73.3)		
Tumor type							
Invasive ductal carcinoma	36	21 (58.3)	0.261	0.878	14(38.9)	0.377	0.828
Invasive lobular cacinoma	6	4 (66.7)			2(33.3)		
Others	6	4 (66.7)			2(50.0)		
Stage							
I, II	40	24 (60.0)	0.017	0.895	13(32.5)	5.035	0.025
III, IV	8	5 (62.5)			6(75.0)		
ER							
-	22	17 (77.3)	4.825	0.028	14(63.6)	9.826	0.002
+	26	12 (46.2)			5(19.2)		
PR							
-	23	18 (78.3)	5.880	0.015	13(56.5)	5.298	0.021
+	25	11(44.0)			6(24.0)		

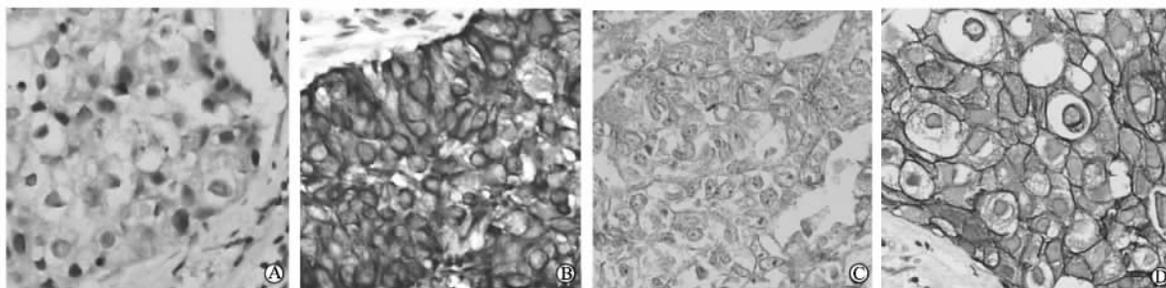


图1 乳腺癌中COX-2和c-erbB-2阳性表达

Fig 1 Expression of COX-2 and c-erbB-2 in breast cancer(SP, ×400)

A: Positive expression of COX-2; B: Strongly positive expression of COX-2; C: Positive expression of c-erbB-2; D: Strongly positive expression of c-erbB-2

2.2 乳腺癌中c-erbB-2的表达 48例乳腺癌中19例c-erbB-2表达阳性,阳性率39.6%,且在淋巴结转移阳性、Ⅲ期以上肿瘤、ER阴性组、PR阴性者c-erbB-2表达阳性率明显高于淋巴结转移阴性、Ⅱ期以下肿瘤、ER阳性、PR阳性者($P < 0.05$),而不同年龄(< 50 岁与 ≥ 50 岁)、肿块大小、病理学类型的患者其表达阳性率无统计学差异。见表1、图1C和1D。

2.3 COX-2与c-erbB-2在乳腺癌中表达的相互关系 在c-erbB-2阳性的19例乳腺癌患者中,16例COX-2表达阳性,表达率84.2%(16/19),而c-erbB-2阴性的29例乳腺癌患者中,13例COX-2阳性表达率44.8%(13/29)。两者相比有显著差异($\chi^2 = 7.445, P = 0.006$)。

3 讨论

近年来越来越多的研究观察到COX-2的表达除与已知的炎症反应有关外,还与结肠癌、胃癌、食管癌、肺癌、前列腺癌等多种肿瘤的发生发展有关。目前动物实验已经证明COX-2的过度表达可以诱导转基因小鼠乳腺癌的形成^[4],COX-2选择性抑制剂能抑制体外培养乳腺癌细胞生长及肿瘤血管生成^[5],表明COX-2直接参与了乳腺癌的癌变过程。Half等^[3]报道43%的侵袭性乳腺癌和63%导管原位癌中COX-2表达水平增高。Ristinmaki等^[6]行1576例侵袭性乳腺癌大样本研究,结果显示乳腺癌中COX-2阳性率为37.4%。本研究48例乳腺癌中COX-2阳性29例,阳性率为60.4%,与文献报道相似。进一步研究乳腺癌中COX-2的阳性表达情况与临床病理特征的关系,各家报道各不相同。Ristinmaki等^[6]报道高度的COX-2表达同肿瘤的大小、高组织学分级、激素受体阴性、高增殖率、野生型c-erbB-2和HER-2基因的高表达有关,同腋淋巴结

转移和导管型癌呈线性关系。Costa等^[7]报道COX-2与组织学分级、ER、c-erbB-2、TGF- α 等无相关性,而与微血管密度、淋巴结转移、凋亡指数相关。本研究发现COX-2在乳腺癌中的表达与肿瘤大小、淋巴结转移、ER、PR、c-erbB-2、表达情况显著相关,而与患者年龄、肿瘤分期、病理类型无关。肿瘤大于2cm,淋巴结转移阳性、雌孕激素受体阴性、c-erbB-2阳性的乳腺癌中COX-2呈高水平表达。

c-erbB-2在正常乳腺细胞甚至不典型增生中低度表达,而在25%~30%的乳腺癌中可以观察到c-erbB-2基因扩增和蛋白过度表达^[8]。Jukkola等^[9]研究650例乳腺癌患者的表达与预后的关系,发现c-erbB-2的过度表达与肿瘤直径大于3cm、组织学低分化、腋淋巴结阳性、激素受体阴性及总体生存率低等因素密切相关。本实验中c-erbB-2阳性组淋巴结转移阳性率明显高于c-erbB-2阴性组,提示c-erbB-2阳性表达与肿瘤增殖和转移有关。Slamon等^[8]提出c-erbB-2是比ER、肿瘤大小等更有价值的预后指标,c-erbB-2基因扩增能独立地预测腋淋巴结阴性的乳腺癌患者的总体生存率和无瘤生存率。目前学术界已普遍认同淋巴结转移阳性的乳腺癌患者中,c-erbB-2过度表达是预后不良的指标,但在腋淋巴结阴性的乳腺癌中c-erbB-2的预测价值尚有分歧。

Ristinmaki等^[6]指出乳腺癌中COX-2与c-erbB-2表达之间存在显著相关性,二者的表达都与阴性激素受体状态、淋巴结转移、肿瘤低分化、组织学类型、无瘤生存期短等有关,二者都是乳腺癌发生的早期事件。Subbaramaiah等^[10]指出COX-2过表达多见于c-erbB-2阳性的乳腺癌。在转染HER-2/neu基因的人乳腺癌细胞(184B5/HER)中,COX-2 mRNA、COX-2蛋白及PGE₂均较未转染的细胞表达增高,在培养的人乳腺上皮细胞中c-erbB-2通过

Ras → Raf →MAPK 途径诱导 COX-2 转录。但也有学者认为二者表达无相关性^[7,11]。本实验中 c-erbB-2 阳性组 COX-2 阳性表达率 84.2%，而 c-erbB-2 阴性的 29 例乳腺癌患者中，13 例 COX-2 表达阳性，表达率 44.8%。两者相比有明显差异。这一结果提示 c-erbB-2 可促进 COX-2 的表达，并且 COX-2 有望作为一种新的预后因子，与 c-erbB-2 联合检测以更好地判断乳腺癌的预后。

总之，COX-2 在乳腺癌中高水平表达且与肿块 >2 cm、淋巴结转移阳性、ER 阴性、PR 阴性等提示肿瘤浸润和转移、预后不良的因素有关，提示 COX-2 在乳腺癌的发生、发展和转移中起重要作用。乳腺癌中 COX-2 高表达与 c-erbB-2 密切相关，推测 COX-2 高表达是癌基因激活的结果，乳腺癌中 COX-2 与 c-erbB-2 存在互相调控机制，共同促进肿瘤的发生和发展。

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[收稿日期] 2005-09-22

[修回日期] 2006-04-14

[本文编辑] 曹 静

Immune responses against SARS-coronavirus nucleocapsid protein induced by DNA vaccine

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[ABSTRACT] The nucleocapsid (N) protein of SARS-coronavirus (SARS-CoV) is the key protein for the formation of the helical nucleocapsid during virion assembly. This protein is believed to be more conserved than other proteins of the virus, such as spike and membrane glycoprotein. In this study, the N protein of SARS-CoV was expressed in *Escherichia coli* DH5alpha and identified with pooled sera from patients in the convalescence phase of SARS. A plasmid pCI-N, encoding the full-length N gene of SARS-CoV, was constructed. Expression of the N protein was observed in COS1 cells following transfection with pCI-N. The immune responses induced by intramuscular immunization with pCI-N were evaluated in a murine model. Serum anti-N immunoglobulins and splenocytes proliferative responses against N protein were observed in immunized BALB/c mice. The major immunoglobulin G subclass recognizing N protein was immunoglobulin G2a, and stimulated splenocytes secreted high levels of gamma interferon and IL-2 in response to N protein. More importantly, the immunized mice produced strong delayed-type hypersensitivity (DTH) and CD8⁺ CTL responses to N protein. The study shows that N protein of SARS-CoV not only is an important B cell immunogen, but also can elicit broad-based cellular immune responses. The results indicate that the N protein may be of potential value in vaccine development for specific prophylaxis and treatment against SARS.

[Virology, 2005, 331: 128-135]