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非酒精性脂肪性肝病患者血清 TNF- α 、IL-6 及 LPS 水平的表达及临床意义*

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摘要 目的:探讨非酒精性脂肪性肝病(NAFLD)患者血清肿瘤坏死因子- α (TNF- α)、白细胞介素-6(IL-6)、脂多糖(LPS)的表达及其与胰岛素抵抗(IR)的关系。**方法:**选取2015年1月到2017年10月在我院接受治疗的NAFLD患者100例作为观察组,另选取同期在我院体检的健康志愿者50例作为对照组,比较两组受试者的空腹血糖(FBG)和空腹胰岛素(FINS)、胰岛素抵抗指数(HOMA-IR)以及TNF- α 、IL-6、LPS水平,采用Pearson相关系数分析TNF- α 、IL-6、LPS与FBG、FINS、HOMA-IR之间的相关性。**结果:**观察组的FBG、FINS水平及HOMA-IR均明显高于对照组,存在统计学差异($P<0.05$)。观察组的TNF- α 、IL-6、LPS水平均明显高于对照组,存在统计学差异($P<0.05$)。经Pearson相关分析显示,TNF- α 、IL-6、LPS与FBG无相关性($P>0.05$),与FINS、HOMA-IR均呈正相关($P<0.05$)。**结论:**NAFLD患者存在明显的IR现象,且其血清中的TNF- α 、IL-6、LPS水平明显上升,同时TNF- α 、IL-6、LPS与IR呈正相关,并与NAFLD的发生、发展密切相关。

关键词:非酒精性脂肪性肝病;肿瘤坏死因子- α ;白细胞介素-6;脂多糖;胰岛素抵抗;相关性

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Nonalcoholic Fatty Liver Disease: Expression and Clinical Significance of Serum TNF- α , IL-6 and LPS Levels*

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ABSTRACT Objective: To investigate the expression of serum tumor necrosis factor (TNF- α), interleukin-6 (IL-6) and lipopolysaccharide (LPS) in patients with non-alcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD) and their relationship with insulin resistance (IR). **Methods:** A total of 100 patients with NAFLD, who were treated in the First People's Hospital of Qinzhou from January 2015 to October 2017, were selected as observation group. Another 50 healthy volunteers who were examined in our hospital in the same period were selected as control group. The levels of fasting blood glucose (FBG), fasting insulin (FINS), insulin resistance index (HOMA-IR) and TNF- α , IL-6 and LPS were compared between the two groups. The correlation between TNF- α , IL-6, LPS and FBG, FINS, HOMA-IR was analyzed by Pearson correlation coefficient. **Results:** The levels of FBG, FINS and HOMA-IR in the observation group were significantly higher than those in the control group, and there was a statistical difference ($P<0.05$). The levels of TNF- α , IL-6 and LPS in the observation group were significantly higher than those in the control group, and there was a statistical difference ($P<0.05$). Pearson correlation analysis showed that TNF- α , IL-6 and LPS were not related to FBG ($P>0.05$), and were positively correlated with FINS and HOMA-IR ($P<0.05$). **Conclusion:** NAFLD patients have obvious IR, and the levels of TNF- α , IL-6 and LPS in the serum are significantly increased. TNF- α , IL-6 and LPS are positively correlated with IR, which are closely related to the occurrence and development of NAFLD.

Key words: Non-alcoholic fatty liver disease; Tumor necrosis factor- α ; Interleukin-6; Lipopolysaccharide; Insulin resistance; Correlation

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前言

非酒精性脂肪性肝病(Nonalcoholic fatty liver disease, NAFLD)是指非饮酒或其他明确病因引发的肝损伤,其主要特

征为肝细胞脂肪沉积和肝实质细胞变性^[1,2]。虽然大部分NAFLD患者经过及时有效的治疗可获得较好的预后,但是由于患者数量庞大,且患者进展为失代偿期肝硬化后往往预后不良,因此NAFLD仍是非常重要的公共卫生问题^[3,4]。NAFLD是

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多因素、多系统病变引起的临床病理综合征,其具体的发病机制尚不明确,"二次打击"学说是目前医学界较为认可的理论^[5,6]。在"二次打击"学说中,胰岛素抵抗(Insulin resistance, IR)是首次打击的重要原因,IR可导致脂质代谢发生紊乱,促进肝细胞脂质堆积,加重肝细胞脂肪变性^[7,8]。另外,肝细胞在"二次打击"中产生氧化应激会释放大量的炎症因子,如肿瘤坏死因子(Tumor necrosis factor- α , TNF- α)、白细胞介素-6(Interleukin-6, IL-6)等, TNF- α 和IL-6均是重要的炎症因子,参与了NAFLD患者疾病进展过程中的炎症反应^[9,10]。肠道内的细菌内毒素是肝损伤的重要辅助因素,脂多糖(Lipopolysaccharide, LPS)是内毒素的重要成分^[11]。目前已有研究证明^[12],IR、TNF- α 、IL-6及LPS与NAFLD的发生、发展密切相关,然而目前关于TNF- α 、IL-6及LPS与IR的关系的相关报道较少。鉴于此,本研究旨在探讨NAFLD患者血清TNF- α 、IL-6及LPS水平的表达及其与IR的关系,现将研究结果整理报道如下。

1 资料与方法

1.1 一般资料

选取2015年1月到2017年10月在我院接受治疗的NAFLD患者100例作为观察组,纳入标准:(1)所有患者均符合《非酒精性脂肪性肝病诊疗指南》中的相关标准^[13];(2)经询问病史及体格检查无胃肠道器质性肝胆疾病;(3)年龄18-70岁;(4)患者及其家属对本研究知情同意,并已签署知情同意书。排除标准:(1)合并有恶性肿瘤者;(2)病毒性肝炎、自身免疫性肝病者;(3)处于特殊时期的妇女,如妊娠期或哺乳期;(4)合并有感染性疾病者;(5)合并有糖尿病者。其中观察组男性55例,女性45例,年龄31-69岁,平均年龄(48.94 $\pm$ 6.48)岁,体质指数(21.45 $\pm$ 1.21)kg/m²,病程1-6年,平均病程(3.22 $\pm$ 1.15)年。另选取同期在我院体检的健康志愿者50例作为对照组,男性30例,女性20例,年龄33-70岁,平均年龄(47.68 $\pm$ 6.41)岁,体质指数(21.64 $\pm$ 1.25)kg/m²。两组受试者的一般资料比较无明显差异(P>0.05),均衡可比。本研究已通过我院伦理委

员会的审批。

1.2 检测方法

对照组于体检当日抽取清晨空腹静脉血5 mL,观察组于住院后抽取清晨空腹静脉血5 mL,均在室温中静置1h,然后采用3000 r/min的离心速度进行10 min的离心运动,取上层血清标本于EP管内,将其置于-80℃的冰箱中保存待测。采用全自动生化分析仪(日立,型号:7600)检测两组受试者的空腹血糖(Fasting blood glucose, FBG)和空腹胰岛素(Fasting insulin, FINS)水平,并根据FBG和FINS计算出胰岛素抵抗指数(Homeostatic model assessment insulin resistance, HOMA-IR),计算公式如下:HOMA-IR=FINS $\times$ FBG $\div$ 22.5。采用酶联免疫吸附法检测血清中TNF- α 、IL-6及LPS水平,相关试剂盒均购于武汉优尔生科技股份有限公司。以上所有检测项目均由我院检验科同事进行检测, TNF- α 、IL-6及LPS的检测步骤严格遵循试剂盒说明进行。

1.3 观察指标

比较两组受试者的FBG、FINS水平及HOMA-IR,同时对比两组受试者血清TNF- α 、IL-6、LPS水平,采用Pearson相关系数分析TNF- α 、IL-6、LPS与FBG、FINS、HOMA-IR之间的相关性。

1.4 统计学方法

所有数据均用SPSS19.0进行统计分析,以率(%)的形式表示计数资料,采用 χ^2 检验,以均值 $\pm$ 标准差($\bar{x} \pm s$)的形式表示计量资料,采用t检验。采用Pearson相关系数分析TNF- α 、IL-6、LPS与FBG、FINS、HOMA-IR之间的相关性。检验标准设置为 $\alpha=0.05$ 。

2 结果

2.1 两组受试者的FBG、FINS水平及HOMA-IR比较

观察组的FBG、FINS水平及HOMA-IR均明显高于对照组,存在统计学差异(P<0.05)。具体数据如表1所示。

表1 两组受试者的FBG、FINS水平及HOMA-IR比较($\bar{x} \pm s$)

Table 1 Comparison of levels of FBG, FINS and HOMA-IR of two groups ($\bar{x} \pm s$)

Groups	n	FBG(mmol/L)	FINS(mIU/L)	HOMA-IR
Control group	50	4.98 $\pm$ 0.54	12.73 $\pm$ 2.64	2.87 $\pm$ 0.75
Observation group	100	5.57 $\pm$ 0.59	15.61 $\pm$ 3.11	3.84 $\pm$ 0.91
t		-5.935	-5.612	-6.509
P		0.000	0.000	0.000

2.2 两组受试者的TNF- α 、IL-6、LPS水平比较

观察组的TNF- α 、IL-6、LPS水平均明显高于对照组,存在

统计学差异(P<0.05)。具体数据如表2所示。

表2 两组受试者的TNF- α 、IL-6、LPS水平比较($\bar{x} \pm s$)

Table 2 Comparison of levels of TNF- α , IL-6, LPS of two groups ($\bar{x} \pm s$)

Groups	n	TNF- α (ng/L)	IL-6(ng/L)	LPS(pg/mL)
Control group	50	5.32 $\pm$ 1.93	3.10 $\pm$ 1.52	0.02 $\pm$ 0.01
Observation group	100	10.24 $\pm$ 3.12	6.48 $\pm$ 2.09	0.06 $\pm$ 0.05
t		-10.207	-10.163	-5.592
P		0.000	0.000	0.000

2.3 TNF- α 、IL-6、LPS 与 FBG、FINS、HOMA-IR 之间的相关性
经 Pearson 相关分析显示,TNF- α 、IL-6、LPS 与 FBG 无相

关性($P>0.05$),与 FINS、HOMA-IR 均呈正相关($P<0.05$)。具体数据如表 3 所示。

表 3 TNF- α 、IL-6、LPS 与 FBG、FINS、HOMA-IR 之间的相关性
Table 3 Correlation between TNF- α , IL-6, LPS and FBG, FINS, HOMA-IR

Indexes	FBG		FINS		HOMA-IR	
	r	P	r	P	r	P
TNF- α	0.162	0.721	0.326	0.033	0.413	0.012
IL-6	0.173	0.684	0.334	0.029	0.426	0.009
LPS	0.105	0.863	0.286	0.045	0.364	0.038

3 讨论

NAFLD 是常见的慢性肝病,大部分患者无自觉症状,部分患者会出现乏力、消化不良、肝区隐痛、肝脾肿大等非特异性症状。近年来,随着人们生活水平的不断提高,生活方式和饮食结构的也跟着不断变化,导致 NAFLD 的发病率逐年递增,并呈低龄化趋势,严重影响人们的身体健康,目前 NAFLD 已成为我国乃至全球范围内重要的公共卫生问题^[14-16]。据相关研究统计^[17],肥胖症和 2 型糖尿病患者的 NAFLD 患病率较一般人群更高,这主要是因为肥胖症和 2 型糖尿病患者存在 IR,而 IR 是引发 NAFLD 的重要原因。当机体出现 IR 时,胰岛素调节脂肪代谢的能力被减弱,导致游离脂肪酸水平上升,过多的游离脂肪酸进入到肝脏内,超出了 β 氧化的承受范围,进而导致大量的游离脂肪酸在肝脏中蓄积,加重肝细胞脂肪变性,同时脂肪变性的肝细胞由于受反应性氧化代谢产物积压的影响,会发生持续低度炎症反应,进一步加重肝细胞损伤,而 TNF- α 、IL-6 及 LPS 均是炎症反应的重要参与者,由此可见 IR、TNF- α 、IL-6 及 LPS 与 NAFLD 的发生、发展密切相关^[18]。

本研究结果显示,观察组的 FBG、FINS 水平及 HOMA-IR 均明显高于对照组($P<0.05$),与相关研究结果一致^[19]。这说明与健康人群相比,NAFLD 患者的 FBG、FINS 水平及 HOMA-IR 均明显上升,提示 IR 可能与 NAFLD 的发生、发展有关。本研究结果还显示,观察组的 TNF- α 、IL-6、LPS 水平均明显高于对照组($P<0.05$),这说明 NAFLD 患者血清中的 TNF- α 、IL-6、LPS 水平均呈异常高表达。TNF- α 主要由单核细胞、巨噬细胞、脂肪细胞等多种细胞分泌,在脂质代谢和炎症反应方面具有重要的调节作用。TNF- α 可诱导受体调节元件结合蛋白 1 的表达,导致肝细胞内合成大量游离脂肪酸,聚集甘油三酯,同时 TNF- α 可增强神经鞘磷脂酶的活性,促进线粒体生成活性氧(Reactive oxygen species, ROS),ROS 可促进脂质过氧化并对肝细胞造成氧化性损伤,另外 TNF- α 还能够与肝细胞膜上的 TNF- α I 型受体结合,促进肝细胞凋亡^[20-22]。IL-6 是白细胞介素家族的一员,能催化和放大炎症反应,具有广泛的生物学效应,在出现脂肪代谢紊乱时 IL-6 的分泌量会大幅度增加,因此在 NAFLD 患者血清中呈高表达,IL-6 可以直接刺激肝细胞、储脂细胞、库普弗细胞生成胶原、蛋白多糖等物质,促进肝纤维化的形成,同时其介导的炎症反应可直接对肝细胞造成损伤^[23,24]。相关研究显示^[25,26],在肥胖症和 2 型糖尿病患者中,IL-6 水平与 HOMA-IR 密切相关,这也说明 IL-6 参与了 IR 的病理变化过程。LPS 是内

毒素的重要成分,血中的内毒素可通过门静脉进入肝脏,其在肝内的蓄积量过多可导致枯否氏细胞无法及时清除,进而引发肠源性内毒素血症,损伤肝细胞。除此之外,LPS 还可导致中性粒细胞的滞留和聚集,并促进内皮细胞粘附分子的表达,进而对血管内皮细胞造成损伤,引发微循环障碍,导致肝细胞受损^[27,28]。有动物实验证明^[29],LPS 可上调 TNF- α 水平,促进肝细胞凋亡,加快 NAFLD 模型大鼠的病情发展。另外,TNF- α 、IL-6、LPS 与 FINS、HOMA-IR 均呈正相关($P<0.05$),这进一步说明了 TNF- α 、IL-6、LPS 与 NAFLD 密切相关。其中 TNF- α 、IL-6 可诱导细胞因子信号转导抑制因子-3 的表达,而细胞因子信号转导抑制因子-3 可抑制胰岛素的信号转导,因此 TNF- α 、IL-6 可通过抑制 SOCS-3 来促进 IR 的发生,另外 TNF- α 、IL-6 可抑制胰岛素受体和胰岛素受体底物-1 的酪氨酸残基磷酸化,进而损害胰岛素信号通路,诱导 IR 的发生^[30],而 LPS 则可能是通过上调 TNF- α 水平来影响 IR。

综上所述,NAFLD 患者有明显的 IR,且 TNF- α 、IL-6、LPS 水平高于正常人群,TNF- α 、IL-6、LPS 与 IR 存在相关性,可促进 NAFLD 的发展,研究 TNF- α 、IL-6、LPS 的生理作用及其机制对 NAFLD 的防治具有重要的意义。

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