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IL-33 在强直性脊柱炎患者外周血中的表达及意义 *

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摘要 目的:探讨 IL-33 在强直性脊柱炎(AS)患者外周血中的表达水平及临床意义。**方法:**选择我院 2013 年 12 月至 2014 年 8 月收治的 80 例 AS 患者作为研究组,另选取同期在我院进行健康体检的 80 例作为对照组。检测两组患者外周血中 IL-33 的表达情况,记录研究组患者病情活动指数(BASDAI)、红细胞沉降率(ESR)及 C-反应蛋白(CRP)水平,分析 IL-33 表达水平与 BASDAI、ESR 及 CRP 的相关性。**结果:**研究组患者血浆 IL-33 水平明显高于对照组,差异具有统计学意义($t=6.15, P=0.025$)。AS 患者外周血 IL-33 水平与 BASDAI 和 CRP 具有显著正相关关系($r=0.432, 0.525, P=0.034, 0.029$),而与 ESR 无显著相关性($r=0.175, P=0.214$)。**结论:**AS 患者外周血中 IL-33 呈高表达,说明其可能参与 AS 的发生及发展。

关键词:强直性脊柱炎;IL-33;红细胞沉降率

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Expression Level and Clinical Significance of IL-33 in Peripheral Blood of Patients with Ankylosing Spondylitis*

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ABSTRACT Objective: To investigate the expression level and clinical significance of IL-33 in peripheral blood of patients with ankylosing spondylitis (AS). **Methods:** 80 cases with AS in our hospital from December 2013 to August 2014 were selected as the study group and another 80 healthy people were selected as the control group. Then the expression of IL-33 in peripheral blood plasma of patients were detected and compared between the two groups, and the disease activity index (BASDAI), the erythrocyte sedimentation rate (ESR) and the c-reactive protein (CRP) of the study group were analyzed. **Results:** IL-33 level of the study group was higher than that of the control group with statistically significant differences ($t=6.15, P=0.025$). IL-33 level had a positive correlation with BASDAI and CRP in AS patients ($r=0.432, 0.525, P=0.034, 0.029$), and no significant correlation with ESR ($r=0.175, P=0.214$). **Conclusions:** The expression level of IL-33 in peripheral blood of AS patients increased significantly, which has an important significance for clinical diagnosis.

Key words: Ankylosing spondylitis; IL-33; ESR

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前言

强直性脊柱炎(Ankylosing spondylitis, AS)是一种慢性进行性炎症性疾病,可累及骶髂关节、脊柱骨突、脊柱关节及椎旁组织,引起脊柱强直及纤维化,临床表现为腰、背、颈、臀、髋部疼痛及关节肿痛,行走活动受限,甚至造成眼、肺及肾等重要器官损伤,严重影响患者的生存质量^[1-3]。

白细胞介素 33(interleukin-33, IL-33)是 IL-1 家族的新发现的成员之一,其基因序列及结构与 IL-1 β 和 IL-18 相似,可参与调节 Th2 细胞反应,具有多种生物学功能活性。相关研究表明,IL-33 在炎症性疾病、自身免疫性疾病、感染以及心血管系统疾病中发挥重要的调控作用^[4-6]。为证实 IL-33 在强直性脊柱炎

患者血清中存在异常表达,本研究主要分析了 IL-33 与 AS 患者病情活动指数(BASDAI)、红细胞沉降率(ESR)及 C-反应蛋白(CRP)水平的关系,旨在为 AS 的临床诊断及治疗提供依据。

1 资料与方法

1.1 一般资料

选择我院 2013 年 12 月至 2014 年 8 月收治的 80 例 AS 患者,均符合美国风湿病协会修订的《强直性脊柱炎诊断标准》^[9]。其中男 39 例,女 41 例;年龄 16~59 岁,平均(29.4 $\pm$ 9.8)岁;病程 2~9 年,平均(4.8 $\pm$ 2.5)年;疾病活动度指数(ASDAS)采用 2009 年国际脊柱关节炎协会(ASAS)制定的 AS 病情活动度评分标准。所有患者入院前均未使用关节内治疗及糖皮质激素

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素治疗等,排除严重心、脑、肾等重要器官功能不全及全身系统性疾病、妊娠期及哺乳期妇女。另选取同期在我院进行健康体检的正常健康者 80 例作为对照组,其中男 45 例,女 35 例;年龄 17~60 岁,平均(31.2 ± 9.6)岁。两组患者的临床资料无显著差异($P > 0.05$),具有可比性。

1.2 方法

记录 AS 患者病情活动指数 (BASDAI)、红细胞沉降率 (erythrocyte sedimentation rate, ESR)、c-反应蛋白 (C-reactive protein, CRP)、人体组织相容性抗原 B27 (human leucocyte antigen, B27);所有患者及健康体检者清晨空腹取血 4 mL,3000 r/min 离心 10 min,分离血浆于 -80°C 保存。IL-33 检测采用 ELISA 法,试剂盒购自美国 R&D 公司,具体操作过程按说明书进行。BASDAI 评分范围为 1~10,分数越高表示活动度越高, BASDAI ≥ 4 表示为病情活动组;ESR 测定采用魏氏法、CRP 采用速率散射比浊法、HLA-B27 测定采用流式细胞技术。

1.3 统计学处理

应用 SPSS16.0 分析数据,计量资料以($\bar{x} \pm s$)表示,用 t 检验,采用 Pearson 直线法进行相关性分析,以 $P < 0.05$ 为差异有统计学意义。

2 结果

2.1 两组患者血浆 IL-33 水平比较

研究组患者血浆 IL-33 水平为(220.4 ± 76.5)pg/mL,对照组 IL-33 水平为(109.8 ± 56.9)pg/mL,研究组 IL-33 水平明显高于对照组,差异具有统计学意义($t=6.152, P=0.025$)。

表 1 两组患者血清 IL-33 水平比较

Table 1 Comparison of IL-33 in the serum of patients between the two groups

	Study group	Control group	t	P
IL-33	220.4 ± 76.5	109.8 ± 56.9	6.152	0.025

2.2 研究组患者临床指标检测结果

研究组 80 例 AS 患者中,HLA-B27 表达阳性为 78 例,阳性率为 97.5%;BASDAI 评分为(3.6 ± 1.9)分;ESR 为(39.8 ± 16.5)mm/h;CRP 平均值为(19.8 ± 7.6)mg/L。

2.3 AS 患者外周血 IL-33 水平与 BASDAI、ESR 及 CRP 水平的相关性分析

AS 患者外周血血浆中 IL-33 水平与 BASDAI 及 CRP 具有显著正相关性($r=0.432, 0.525, P=0.034, 0.029$),而与 ESR 没有显著相关性($r=0.175, P=0.214$)。

表 2 AS 患者外周血 IL-33 水平与 BASDAI、ESR 及 CRP 水平相关性分析

Table 2 Analysis of the relationship of IL-33, BASDAI, ESR and CRP of patients with AS

Indicator		BASDAI	ESR (mm/h)	CRP (mg/L)
IL-33	r	0.432	0.175	0.525
	P	0.034	0.214	0.029

3 讨论

强直性脊柱炎为中轴关节受累关节病变,其发病机制复杂,与遗传易感性、免疫反应异常及环境等多种因素相关^[78]。AS 患者早期主要表现为腰背疼痛、弯腰及关节疼痛等症状,病情进一步发展可造成关节功能障碍,因此致残率极高^[9]。有研究报道^[10],AS 为自身慢性免疫性系统疾病,肿瘤坏死因子 α 、IL-17 等细胞因子及多种辅助性 T 淋巴细胞参与了强直性脊柱炎的发病过程。目前已有研究证实 AS 患者 Th1 / Th2 失衡, IL-1 家族的多数成员均为 AS 致炎因子^[11]。

IL-33 为 IL-1 新发现的家族成员之一,在多种组织中均有表达,作为细胞因子可与其受体结合而激活肥大细胞产生多种炎性细胞因子,同时还可参与调节 Th2 细胞免疫反应,分泌 IL-5、IL-13 等细胞因子^[1213]。IL-33 还可作为核因子定位在细胞核内,从而发挥转录抑制作用,进一步对机体免疫系统进行调节^[14]。有研究报道^[15],IL-33 在风湿性关节炎患者血清及滑膜液中的水平明显高于正常健康者。另有研究表明,患者滑膜组织中 IL-33 水平增高,进一步表明 IL-33 可能与类风湿性关节炎患者的发病具有相关性^[16]。

本研究结果显示,研究组患者血浆 IL-33 水平明显高于对照组的健康者($P < 0.05$)。结果说明,IL-33 在强直性脊柱炎发生及发展过程中发挥一定作用。进一步分析 IL-33 水平与 AS 患者一般炎症反应因子的相关性,结果显示 IL-33 表达水平与 BASDAI 及 CRP 具有显著正相关性($P < 0.05$),而与 ESR 无关($P > 0.05$)。结果提示,IL-33 与 AS 患者疾病活动度相关,可能参与了 AS 的发病过程,其作用机制可能是作为 Th2 细胞的化学诱导物,介导其活化和迁移,从而发挥主动免疫作用,同时间接作用于 Th1 型免疫反应。另外,在炎症反应中,IL-33 及其受体的增高,向损伤组织中释放大量 IL-33,通过趋化,促进肥大细胞及成纤维细胞分泌 IL-6、VEGF 等细胞因子,诱发局部炎症性免疫细胞聚集和关节炎症损伤,最终引起 AS 发生^[1720]。

综上所述,强直性脊柱炎患者外周血中 IL-33 表达水平明显升高,说明其参与了 AS 的发生及发展,这可能与 IL-33 作为促炎性因子在免疫系统中发挥多效性作用相关,我们会在后续实验中进一步研究。

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(上接第 3242 页)

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