

脂肪源性干细胞治疗骨关节炎研究进展

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摘要 脂肪源性干细胞(ADSC)具有促进软骨修复作用,成为治疗软骨缺损与关节退行性变的新方向。虽然 ADSC 治疗 OA 机制尚未完全阐明,但其促进软骨分化与再生的作用已得到肯定。目前应用 ADSC 治疗骨关节炎(OA)的主要方式有经关节镜检查清理关节腔后,在关节腔内注入自体臀部或腹部的 ADSC,或联合富血小板血浆一同注入,对不同程度 OA 患者疗效不同。但是,对于 ADSC 的取材部位、诱导分化方法及治疗 OA 最佳应用方式、剂量、疗程尚无定论。该文对 ADSC 治疗 OA 研究进展作一综述。

关键词 脂肪源性干细胞;骨关节炎;关节软骨

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骨关节炎(OA)是最常见的关节退行性病变,随着我国人口老龄化加剧,OA 已逐步成为严重的医疗卫生问题。研究显示,中国 40 岁以上中老年人膝关节 OA 总患病率高达 17.0%,其中男性 12.3%,女性 22.2%^[1-3]。目前 OA 的确切发病机制暂不明确,可能与遗传、年龄、肥胖有关,但不论原发性或继发性 OA,都是以关节软骨、软骨周围组织、细胞基质、软骨下骨合成与降解失衡为病理基础,主要包括以下几个方面:①软骨细胞凋亡;②细胞基质蛋白酶降解;③多种细胞因子失衡,如转化生长因子(TGF)- β 等抑制软骨细胞成熟的细胞因子被激活,或胰岛素样生长因子(IGF)等促进软骨再生与重塑的细胞因子缺失,进而导致关节软骨退变、缺失,随着疾病进展,由于关节软骨缺失和缺失软骨表面纤维化,关节软骨下骨外露,关节两端骨骼直接摩擦引发关节疼痛,摩擦刺激导致关节内产生炎症反应,继而出现关节粘连、僵硬、变形,进一步使疼痛加重,引发关节强直。

近年来,随着组织工程及再生医学的发展,越来越多的研究发现,脂肪源性干细胞(ADSC)具有促进软骨修复的作用,成为治疗软骨缺损与关节退行性变的新方向。脂肪干细胞不仅具有取材方便、对患者创伤小、分化能力好、不易凋亡等特点,而且能促进关节软骨增殖与分化。本文对 ADSC 治疗 OA 研究进展作一综述。

1 ADSC 来源

ADSC 是从脂肪组织的血管基质成分(SVF)中经胶原酶消化离心得到的间充质干细胞(MSC),它位于脂肪组织内大血管的毛细血管和血管外膜中,在形态和分化潜能上与骨髓间充质干细胞(BMSC)有共同特点。Im^[4]研究发现,与 BMSC 相比,ADSC 具有在培养液中增殖较快、分化能力强、不易凋亡等特点,且在特定环境及组织条件诱导下,可分化成为软骨细胞、骨细胞、脂肪细胞、心肌细胞、神经细胞等,理论上可用于治疗多种疾病如 OA、心肌缺血、神经系统损伤等。

ADSC 来源十分广泛,目前绝大多数 ADSC 是通过脂肪抽吸术或脂肪切除术并经过胶原酶消化、离心分离得到,1 g 脂肪经分离约可得到 1.0×10^6 个 ADSC。国外较经典的 ADSC 获得方法来源于匹兹堡大学 ADSC 中心,将抽脂术或术中切除的废弃脂肪组织通过胶原酶酶解,再通过离心机离心,弃上层脂肪细胞,用尼龙网过滤下层细胞,在特定培养基上培养、孵育,最后用磷酸盐缓冲溶液(PBS)洗涤残留的非黏附红细胞,即可得到 ADSC^[5-6]。Housman 等^[7]研究认为,脂肪抽吸术不良事件发生率仅为 0.068%,较为安全;相对于抽取骨髓获得 BMSC 等途径,通过脂肪组织获得 ADSC 较简便且创伤小,可作为组织工程 ADSC 的主要来源。

2 ADSC 治疗 OA 的机制

van Pham 等^[8]研究表明,从脂肪抽吸术或手术切除的脂肪组织中获得的 ADSC 可以在特定条件下表达与软骨细胞信号通路结合的基因和基质标记

物。体外试验也证实,ADSC有软骨形成作用,提示ADSC具有CD73、CD90、CD105等细胞分化为软骨所必需的表面标记物^[9]。ADSC在增殖分化时可分泌多种细胞因子如TGF- β ^[10]、神经生长因子(NGF)^[11]、血管内皮生长因子(VEGF)^[12]、肝细胞生长因子(HGF)等,这些细胞因子可促进软骨细胞分化、成软骨细胞相关基因表达、软骨细胞增殖,起到促进软骨再生与修复的作用。同时,ADSC对软骨细胞也有旁分泌作用,不仅能够调节相关T细胞增殖,降低炎症标志物,减轻炎症反应,改善临床症状,而且还能促进血管生成与组织存活^[13]。目前虽然ADSC治疗OA机制尚未完全阐明,但其促进软骨分化与再生的作用已得到肯定。

3 ADSC治疗OA的应用

Schiavone-Panni等^[14]对52例早期膝关节OA患者行关节镜下清理关节腔后进行自体ADSC关节腔内注射,平均随访15.3个月,通过国际膝关节协会(IKS)评分和疼痛视觉模拟评分(VAS)对患者进行评估,结果显示平均IKS评分从术前57.2分提高到近期随访83.0分($P < 0.01$),平均VAS评分从术前8.5分下降到近期随访5.1分($P < 0.01$),尤其对于术前VAS评分较高的患者疗效更明显。Lee等^[15]将24例早期膝关节OA患者随机分为两组,每组各12例,实验组予以关节腔注射自体ADSC,对照组予以注射相同剂量生理盐水,随访6个月,并应用MRI检查对注射后软骨缺损变化进行评估,结果发现实验组膝关节美国西部Ontario和McMaster大学骨关节炎指数(WOMAC)评分明显提高,6个月时对照组WOMAC评分无明显变化,且实验组关节软骨缺损无明显增加,对照组关节软骨缺损面积持续扩大,两组均无不良事件发生。Stoddard等^[16]研究认为,ADSC在膝关节OA中具有减轻疼痛和改善功能的作用,并可能延缓关节置换。Spasovski等^[17]对9例OA患者予以定期关节腔注射自体ADSC治疗,随访18个月,发现所有患者术后膝关节协会(KSS)评分、特殊外科医院膝关节评分标准(HSS-KS)评分、VAS评分均有明显改善,MRI结果提示关节内软骨明显修复,膝关节无明显进一步退变。Elnahal等^[18]选择了20例无其他系统并发症的膝关节OA患者,局麻下从下腹部取50g的脂肪组织,经胶原酶分解,在超声引导下将ADSC注入膝关节腔内,随访6个月,20例患者膝关节WOMAC评分均有所上升,治疗期和随访期

间未发现与抽脂或ADSC注射相关并发症,仅有4例患者诉膝关节注射后关节轻度疼痛,但经保守治疗后均好转。Koh等^[19]将80例膝关节OA患者分为两组,每组40例,实验组予自体ADSC移植联合关节镜下膝关节清理术,对照组仅予单纯关节镜下膝关节清理术,术后随访24个月,结果发现实验组软骨覆盖率、Lysholm评分、膝关节损伤和骨关节炎评分(KOOS)、VAS评分、软骨修复组织MR观察评分(MOCART)均优于对照组。

Zhou等^[20]建立大鼠膝关节OA模型,将ADSC植入其关节腔,采用免疫组化检测关节软骨中基质金属蛋白酶(MMP)-13、II型胶原蛋白、半胱氨酸天冬氨酸蛋白酶(caspase)-3、聚腺苷二磷酸-核糖聚合酶(PARP)、p62蛋白、自噬微管相关蛋白轻链 $\beta 3$ 抗体(LC3b)、络氨酸激酶(DDR)-2、碱性成纤维细胞生长因子受体(bFGFR)-1、Wnt等细胞因子表达水平,采用实时定量基因扩增荧光检测系统和蛋白质切迹法检测软骨细胞标志物mRNA和蛋白水平,并评估软骨细胞凋亡水平,结果发现ADSC可减轻大鼠OA症状,ADSC通过诱导自噬来减少促炎细胞因子分泌,抑制软骨细胞凋亡。Yamasaki等^[21]使用由ADSC组成的人工无支架构建物,应用生物3D打印技术,以猪股骨滑车软骨缺损为模型,将打印物植入其中,分别于术后3个月及6个月行CT、MRI检查,发现植入处软骨组织学评分、显微病理评分均表现良好。Xu等^[22]通过兔耳软骨缺损模型评价同种异体ADSC联合富血小板血浆治疗软骨缺损的疗效,发现同种异体ADSC联合富血小板血浆可明显加速软骨再生,且不会引起明显的免疫排斥反应。Feng等^[23]研究发现,ADSC可抑制OA进展,促进软骨再生。Jacer等^[24]研究发现,关节腔内注射自体ADSC,可培养出肉眼可见的新生软骨组织,且原先软骨缺损及磨损处可见自发形成的纤维软骨。多项研究^[25-28]对ADSC治疗膝关节OA的机制进行了更深层次的探讨,认为ADSC可增加关节液中IGF-1水平,下调关节软骨中MMP和II型胶原蛋白水平,同时释放细胞外小泡(EV),ADSC通过这些机制修复关节软骨损伤。

4 结语

虽然目前人工关节置换已成为重症OA患者的唯一有效治疗手段,但对于大部分轻中度或早期OA患者,目前仅有的治疗手段并不能完全阻止关节退变进展。ADSC治疗软骨缺损与关节退行性变

是骨科领域的研究热点。ADSC 不仅取材方便、对患者创伤小、分化能力好、不易凋亡,还可促进关节软骨增殖与分化,这为终止 OA 进一步进展,甚至逆转 OA 发展提供了可能。目前还存在以下问题。

①ADSC的最佳取材部位。目前尚无文献或循证医学证据证实 ADSC 的最佳取材部位,且不同取材部位 ADSC 含量、活性、分化能力尚不相同,因此尚需进一步探讨。

②如何调控 ADSC 分化,促使 ADSC 向软骨细胞、成软骨细胞分化,且避免无限制的分化与增长。

③ADSC 治疗 OA 最佳的应用方式、剂量、疗程等。

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