

·论著·

## 儿童期重症肌无力临床特点及免疫指标变化

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**摘要 目的:**对儿童期重症肌无力(MG)患者的临床特点及免疫指标变化进行研究。**方法:**儿童期MG患者70例纳入病例组,健康儿童100例纳入对照组,收集病例组患儿的发病年龄、性别、MG分型、合并症及胸腺情况,归纳儿童期MG患者的临床特点;采集2组的外周血,检测病例组AChR抗体阳性率,检测2组血清的免疫指标(IgG、IgA、IgM、C3、C4),定量抗体芯片技术分析2组血清中IgG亚型。**结果:**本组儿童期MG患者中,约半数在5岁以前发病,眼肌型占大多数(92.9%),20.0%患者合并甲状腺功能异常,14.3%的患者合并胸腺病变,AChR抗体阳性率67.1%。与对照组比较,病例组外周血血清IgG、IgA、IgM、C3及C4水平显著降低( $P<0.05$ );在血清IgG亚型中,IgG1和IgG3水平高于对照组( $P<0.05$ ),其余亚型差异无统计学意义( $P>0.05$ )。**结论:**儿童期MG发病年龄在5岁之前及单纯眼肌型的比例占多数,自身抗体阳性率高,AChR抗体以IgG1和IgG3为主,免疫球蛋白及补体水平明显减低。

**关键词** 儿童期重症肌无力; IgG; IgA; IgM; C3; C4; IgG 亚型

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### Study on Clinical Features and Immunological Changes of Childhood-onset Myasthenia Gravis

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**Abstract Objective:** To study the clinical features and immunological changes in patients of childhood-onset myasthenia gravis (CMG). **Methods:** Seventy randomly selected CMG patients and 100 age-matched healthy controls were recruited. Clinical data of the CMG group such as onset age, MG classification, gender, comorbidities, and thymus abnormalities were collected to summarize the clinical features of CMG. Peripheral blood was collected from subjects in both groups. The CMG group serum AChRAb levels were detected. Immunological testing (IgG, IgA, IgM, C3, C4) was performed on both groups. The concentrations of IgG subclasses in both groups were quantified using Quantibody Human Ig Isotype Array. **Results:** Of the CMG patients in this study, approximately half had an onset age before 5 years old, and a majority presented with ocular type MG (92.9%). Comorbidities of thyroid abnormality were present in 20.0% of patients, and comorbidities of thymic abnormality were present in 14.3% of patients; 67.1% of patients were positive for AChRAb. Compared with the controls, the concentrations of serum IgG, IgA, IgM, C3, and C4 in CMG patients were significantly reduced ( $P<0.05$ ). Among the IgG subclasses, IgG1 and IgG3 concentrations were higher in CMG patients than in healthy controls ( $P<0.05$ ); the difference in other IgG subclasses was not significant ( $P>0.05$ ). **Conclusion:** Our data show that a majority of CMG patients develop the disorder before 5 years of age, present with ocular type MG, and show a high positive rate of autoantibodies. Our results suggest that AChRAb is mainly composed of IgG1 and IgG3 and that CMG is characterized by decreased levels of immunoglobulins and complements.

**Key words** childhood-onset myasthenia gravis; IgG; IgA; IgM; C3; C4; IgG subclasses

重症肌无力(myasthenia gravis, MG)是自身免疫病,表现为肌肉不同程度的易疲劳和无力,自身抗体针对终板处的乙酰胆碱受体<sup>[1]</sup>。MG的标志性病理特征之一是IgG以及补体在神经肌肉接头处的沉积<sup>[2]</sup>。儿童期MG是指发病年龄<15岁的MG<sup>[3]</sup>。和白种人相比,亚洲人儿童期MG的发病率明显较高<sup>[4]</sup>。本研究即对儿童期MG患者的临床特点及外周血血清中免疫指标的含量

进行分析,探究儿童期MG可能的发病机制,为治疗提供新的靶点。

## 1 资料与方法

### 1.1 一般资料

随机选取2011年1月至2013年6月我科收治的儿童期MG患者70例为病例组;均符合依据美国临床分类协会发布的诊断标准及《中国重症肌无力诊断和治疗专家共识

2011版》制定的诊断标准<sup>[5,6]</sup>。同期年龄和性别匹配的健康儿童100例为对照组,排除急慢性感染和自身免疫病。研究经本院伦理委员会批准并由监护人签署知情同意书。

## 1.2 方法

**1.2.1 主要试剂与设备** 抗乙酰胆碱受体抗体(acetylcholine receptor-Ab, AchR-Ab)ELISA试剂盒购自英国RSR Limited公司,人Ig亚型定量抗体芯片试剂盒购自美国Raybiotech公司。相关辅助检查,均在同济医院检验科进行,武汉康圣达医学检验所进行血AChR-Ab检测。

**1.2.2 外周血提取及处理** 2组均通过肘部或头皮静脉采外周血4~5 mL,置于促凝剂采集管中,室温静置30 min,离心15 min(4 °C, 3000 r/min),取上层血清,EP管分装(120 μL/管),-80°C冰箱保存。所有受试儿童抽血当日均无发热或急性感染征象。

**1.2.3 外周血免疫全套检测** 取2组血清0.5 mL/例,免疫比浊法检测各组外周血血清中IgG、IgA、IgM、C3及C4的含量。

**1.2.4 外周血IgG亚型分析** 按照人Ig亚型定量抗体芯片试剂盒说明书进行:血清样本稀释至1:40 000,取用玻璃芯片,每孔加入100 μL样本稀释液封闭玻片。去除稀释液后,每孔加入100 μL的免疫球蛋白标准品/样本,4 °C孵育过夜。清洗后每孔中加入80 μL检测抗体,室温静置1 h,后行Cy3标记链霉亲和素孵育,避光室温孵育1 h,激光扫描仪行荧光检测,使用Quantibody® Q-Analyzer软件,得出各IgG亚型的浓度。

## 1.3 统计学处理

SPSS 16.0软件处理数据。计量资料以( $\bar{x}\pm s$ )表示,组间比较采用t检验;计数资料以率表示,组间比较采用 $\chi^2$ 检验; $P<0.05$ 为差异有统计学意义。

## 2 结果

本研究病例组纳入儿童期MG患儿70例,男33例(47.1%),女37例(52.9%),平均年龄(5.7±2.2)岁;对照组儿童100例,男44例,女56例,平均年龄(7.9±1.5)岁;2组年龄及性别差异无统计学意义( $P>0.05$ )。

**2.1.1 发病年龄特点** 病例组患儿中,发病年龄<5岁34例(48.6%),5~10岁25例(35.7%),10~15岁11例(15.7%)。提示我国儿童期MG的发病年龄低,近半数为5岁以下。

**2.1.2 临床分型特点** 病例组中,以单纯眼肌受累起病65例(92.9%),合并全身症状5例(7.1%),提示我国儿童期MG以眼肌型起病者为绝大多数。

**2.1.3 合并症及胸腺情况** 合并胸腺增生的患儿9例,其中1例高度怀疑胸腺瘤,行胸腺切除手术后病理确诊为胸腺瘤。合并甲状腺功能亢进10例(14.29%),合并甲状腺功能减退4例(5.72%)。

**2.1.4 AChR抗体情况** 本组患儿AChR抗体阳性47例(67.2%),略低于成人的抗体阳性率,但远高于日本、美国等国家儿童期MG的抗体阳性率<sup>[7-10]</sup>。

## 2.2 外周血免疫指标检测结果

儿童期MG患儿外周血血清中的IgG、IgA、IgM、C3和C4水平均较对照组降低( $P<0.05$ ),见表1。

## 2.3 IgG亚型分析结果

定量抗体芯片<sup>[11]</sup>对病例组外周血血清中IgG检测结果显示,病例组血清内IgG1(8.57±0.57)g/L, IgG3(1.14±0.29)g/L, 均高于对照组( $P<0.05$ ); IgG2(0.29±0.03)g/L、IgG4(1.09±0.28)g/L, 与对照差异无统计学意义( $P>0.05$ )。

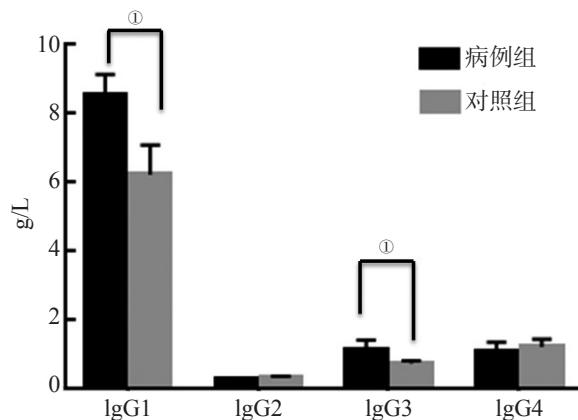
## 3 讨论

既往研究发现,中国大陆的儿童期MG的比例高于美国、欧洲、非洲及日本、印度等其他亚洲国家和地区<sup>[7-9, 12-16]</sup>。本研究结果显示,中国儿童期MG约有半数在5岁以前发病,绝大多数患儿为单纯眼肌型,并不易向全身型转化,AChR抗体阳性率高,合并胸腺及甲状腺问题的患者数较少。这些研究结果与我院已完成的一项临床随访研究结果基本一致<sup>[17]</sup>。另有研究表明,日本MG在5岁以前也有一个发病高峰<sup>[7]</sup>,但由于本身发病率低,其绝对数值仍远远小于中国。本研究中患儿外周血AChR抗体阳性率和略低于成人MG的AChR抗体阳性率,但高于日本、土耳其、美国等国家儿童期MG的抗体阳性率<sup>[7-10]</sup>。

上述独特的临床特点提示中国儿童期MG可能

表1 本组外周血免疫指标检测结果(g/L,  $\bar{x}\pm s$ )

组别	例数	IgG	IgA	IgM	C3	C4
对照组	100	10.95±3.01	1.50±0.59	1.36±0.49	1.02±0.20	0.22±0.07
病例组	70	8.04±2.64	1.25±0.67	1.13±0.37	0.90±0.17	0.18±0.07
P值		0.000	0.011	0.001	0.000	0.000



注:与对照组比较,<sup>①</sup> $P<0.05$ ;

图1 2组外周血血清IgG亚型分析

有其独特的免疫特点及发病机制。基于此,本研究检测了2组外周血血清免疫全套的变化水平,发现病例组血清中IgG、IgM、IgA、C3和C4水平明显低于对照组( $P<0.05$ ),提示儿童期MG患儿的免疫球蛋白和补体可能在病变局部产生异常沉积,免疫球蛋白及补体系统异常沉积可能参与了MG的发病。有报道MG患者神经肌肉接头突触后膜皱褶和碎片处有IgG、C3和C9的沉积,且患者血清中某些补体含量减低,提示补体系统存在过度消耗<sup>[18,19]</sup>。这与本研究结果一致。

免疫球蛋白IgG与MG抗体的产生密切相关,并且IgG亚型能够影响特定的免疫进程,提示MG的病理类型<sup>[11]</sup>。既往有研究发现大多数的MG患者的AChR抗体是IgG1和IgG3亚型(分别为100%和64%),且IgG1和IgG3的水平在MG患者中明显升高<sup>[20]</sup>,但该研究的研究对象为白种人,且无针对儿童期MG的相关研究。本研究运用定量抗体芯片技术对2组外周血血清中IgG进行亚型分析,结果发现病例组患儿外周血血清IgG1和IgG3的水平明显高于对照组,推断中国儿童期MG的AChR抗体也以IgG1和IgG3为主,与之前针对白种人的研究结果一致。

综上所述,我国儿童期MG临床特点为:发病年龄低于5岁及单纯眼肌型的比例占多数,自身抗体阳性率高,AChR抗体以IgG1和IgG3为主,免疫球蛋白及补体水平明显减低,提示补体系统和免疫球蛋白在神经肌肉接头处的异常沉积可能参与了儿童期MG发病。本研究为单中心研究,且病例数较少,有一定的局限性,今后需要多中心更大样本量的流行病学研究

来进一步验证。

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