

从miRNA到中性粒细胞外诱捕网：脓毒血症调节机制研究的最新进展

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摘要

中性粒细胞作为人体的第一道防线, 他们被迅速动员到免疫反应的位置, 是非特异性免疫的重要组成部分, 中性粒细胞发挥功能主要通过三条途径: 吞噬、脱颗粒、中性粒细胞外诱捕网(NETs)。NETs是2004年发现的一种巨大的细胞外网状结构。胞浆蛋白和颗粒蛋白构成NETs。脓毒血症时, 大量NETs释放, 抗感染的同时进一步放大炎症级联反应, 导致组织受损加重, 致使病情进一步加重。所以, 熟悉NETs的生成及其抑制的分子机制对于开展治疗脓毒症的治疗方法至关重要, 本文总结最新与NETs形成相关的microRNA (miRNA)列表, 并根据其作用机制进行分类, 并阐明其作用原理, 据最新研究发现, miR-155、miR-1696、miR-7、miR-223、miR-146a、miR-142a-3p、miR-3146、miR-505、miR-4512、miR-15b-5p、miR-16-5p、miR-26b-5p、miR-125a-3p和miR-378a-3p通过不同机制调控脓毒症的NETs形成与释放, 影响患者器官损害程度及存活率。

关键词

中性粒细胞, 中性粒细胞外诱捕网, microRNA, 脓毒血症

From miRNA to Neutrophil Extracellular Traps: Recent Advances in the Regulatory Mechanisms of Sepsis

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Abstract

Neutrophils, as the body's first line of defense, are rapidly mobilized to sites of immune response and serve as a crucial component of nonspecific immunity. Neutrophils primarily exert their functions through three pathways: phagocytosis, degranulation, and neutrophil extracellular traps (NETs). NETs, discovered in 2004, are large extracellular web-like structures composed of cytoplasmic and granular proteins. During sepsis, massive NETs release helps combat infection but simultaneously amplifies the inflammatory cascade, leading to aggravated tissue damage and worsening of the condition. Therefore, understanding the molecular mechanisms governing NET formation and inhibition is essential for developing sepsis treatments. This article summarizes the latest list of miRNAs associated with NET formation, categorizes them based on their mechanisms of action, and clarifies their functional principles. According to recent research, miR-155, miR-1696, miR-7, miR-223, miR-146a, miR-142a-3p, miR-3146, miR-505, miR-4512, miR-15b-5p, miR-16-5p, miR-26b-5p, miR-125a-3p, and miR-378a-3p regulate the formation and release of NETs in sepsis through various mechanisms, impacting the extent of organ damage and patient survival.

Keywords

Neutrophilic Granulocyte, Neutrophil Extracellular Traps, microRNA, Sepsis

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1. 介绍

中性粒细胞是人体重要的免疫细胞,在血液循环中,中性粒细胞存活时间较短,但是,在炎症期间,中性粒细胞的寿命因被刺激、激活而显著增加[1]。中性粒细胞被激活,最先到达炎症部位,借助吞噬或释放颗粒酶、蛋白质、氧化剂、外诱捕网 NETs、等迅速杀死病原体[2]。中性粒细胞外诱捕网[NETs]在中性粒细胞抗感染中发挥着关键作用。被激活的中性粒细胞在细胞外释放染色质网和细胞内颗粒蛋白,称为 NETs。脓毒症时大量的炎症因子持续释放,导致 NETs 释放量明显增加,在杀死病原体的同时,导致组织器官进一步的损害(如低血压、低氧血症、凝血障碍、多器官功能障碍) [3] [4]。NETs 的生成方式及生成途径逐步明朗,但是 NETs 的调控机制仍不完善。

miRNA 是动物、植物和一些病毒种的小非编码 RNA,他们在 mRNA 水平上调控基因表达。参与细胞的生理、病理以及脓毒血症时 NETs 的产生及释放。最近的研究发现,miR-3164/PAD4 调节 NETosis,减轻气道炎症和逆转气道重塑, microRNA-140-5p 通过红细胞相关因子、去乙酰化酶加重动脉粥样硬化[5] [6]。参与 NETosis 分子途径的 miRNAs 有 14 种,分别是 miR-155、miR-1696、miR-7、miR-223、miR-146a、miR-142a-3p、miR-3146、miR-505、miR-4512、miR-15b-5p、miR-16-5p、miR-26b-5p、miR-125a-3p 和 miR-378a-3p、microRNA (miRNA)。因此明确 microRNA 调控 NETS 的机制,能为脓毒血症的治疗提供新的靶点。

2. miRNA 的生物途径

大多数成熟的 miRNA 序列位于非编码 RNA 的内含子或外显子以及 pre-mRNA 内含子中。长度

约为 18~24 个核苷酸, 在转录基因表达中发挥功能。这些核苷酸被整合到 RNA 诱导的沉默复合体(RISC)中[7]。这些复合物通过 miRNA 与靶基因的信使 RNA (mRNA)的 3'-UTR 非翻译区结合, 抑制其翻译或者降解 mRNA。根据研究显示, miRNA 在许多生物学功能中的重要作用, 如发育、细胞分化、胚胎发生、代谢、器官发生和凋亡, 同时还参与了许多疾病的发生、发展[8]-[10]。

3. NETs

NETs 最早是在 2004 年被发现的, 是由 Brinkman 和其同事观察到激活的中性粒细胞可以通过释放中性粒细胞弹性蛋白酶(NE)、髓过氧化物酶(MPO)、组蛋白等组成的网状结构[11]。NETosis 被定义为中性粒细胞程序性细胞死亡的新机制, 是区别凋亡和坏死的[12] [13]。NETosis 有三种不同的类型, 自杀性 NETosis: 通过增加细胞内的 Ca^{2+} , 提高蛋白激酶 C 和 NADPH 氧化酶的活性, 从而导致活性氧的生成, 在活性氧的作用机制下, MPO 活化, 导致染色质浓缩、和核膜的破裂, 抗菌蛋白排放到细胞外, 导致中性粒细胞死亡[14]-[16]。存活式 NETosis: 保持完整的质膜和核膜, 并且保留抗炎功能[17]。其功能的激活不依靠活性氧的活化, 肽精氨酸脱亚胺酶 4 (PAD4)激活后, 组蛋白被瓜氨酸化, 染色质去浓缩发生。DNA-蛋白复合物被包裹在囊泡中并被排出细胞外形成 NETs, 发挥抗炎作用[18]。含有线粒体 DNA 的存活式 NETosis, 也是依靠活性氧的活化来发挥其功能[19]。

4. 脓毒血症中的 NETs 是一把双刃剑

脓毒血症中 NETs 抗感染功能, 其通过独有的网状结构与抗菌蛋白结合, 使其具备捕获和杀死病原菌, 在感染期间, NETs 依靠限制细菌播散、物理捕捉、降解发挥其抗感染的活性, NETs 细胞外带负电荷, 可以与许多微生物相结合, 而其蛋白与带负电荷的病毒蛋白相结合, 然后被抗菌蛋白消灭[20] [21]。同时, NETs 还可通过清除病原体减轻炎症反应。然而, 随着 NETs 的过度释放, 其组蛋白和酶会造成自身组织及器官的损伤, 如组蛋白会破坏及杀伤内皮细胞, 导致血管通透性增加和微血栓形成, 加重多器官功能障碍[22]。研究表明 NET 过度释放, 会产出细胞毒性组蛋白, 介导肺泡上皮细胞及内皮细胞的死亡, 加重肺损伤及呼吸衰竭[23]。

5. MiRNA 在脓毒血症中对 NETs 的调控

miR-155 通过调控 PAD4 介导蛋白瓜氨酸化的调控从而影响 NETs 形成[24]。miR-155 通过直接或间接靶向与上皮-间质转移、迁移和侵袭相关的基因, 在癌症转移中发挥重要作用, 特别是在结肠癌、肾癌、胰腺癌和白血病中[25]。然而, 在中性粒细胞中靶向 miR-155 及其对脓毒血症发生、进展的潜在积极影响, 应在未来的研究中进一步研究。另有研究认为更高水平的 miR-146a 抑制中性粒细胞中的超氧化物歧化酶 2, 从而促进活性氧的增加, 从而促进 NETs 的形成。NETs 潜在调节剂 miR-505 可以促进 NETs 的形成。miR-378a-3p 和 miR-15b-5p, 它们调节 PI3K/Akt 途径, 参与自噬和 NETosis 的形成。此外, HL-60 细胞经 miR-378a-3p 和 miR-15b-5p 模拟物孵育后, 显示出与 3-磷酸肌醇依赖性蛋白激酶 1 (PDK1)表达直接相关的更高的 NETs 形成能力[26]。miR-1696 通过抑制谷胱甘肽过氧化物酶干扰[MAPKs]和 PI3K/Akt 通路, 调节 NETs 的形成。miR-16-5p 的表达可影响, 从而影响 RAF1 (Raf-1 原癌基因, 丝氨酸/苏氨酸激酶)和 PIK3R1 (磷酸肌醇-3 激酶调节亚基 1)。RAF1 与 MAPK/细胞外信号调节激酶/NADPH 氧化酶 2 (MEK/ERK/NOX2)通路相关。而 PIK3R1 与 PI3K/Akt/mTOR 通路相关, 与自噬相关, 间接与 NETosis 生成相关[27] [28]。miR-223 可阻断钙离子流入细胞内和 IL-18 依赖活性氧的生成, 抑制 NETs 的形成。对痛风患者的研究表明, 中性粒细胞中 miR-3146 的高表达通常伴随着大量的 NETs [29]。在小鼠实验中的数据提示, miR-3146 拮抗剂治疗(miRNAs 的反义序列, 特异性抑制剂)抑制活性氧和 sirt1 依赖性 NET 的形成[30]。然而, 在这些研究中, 实验都没有在人类或人类原代细胞上进行。因此, 建议开发

人类特异性模型。例如：类器官与器官芯片：利用人多能干细胞分化中性粒细胞，在更接近人体胜利环境中研究 miRNA 调控作用，人源化小鼠模型：将人源中性粒细胞或造血干细胞移植到免疫缺陷小鼠中国，建立人源性 NETosis 模型，来验证 miRNA 靶向调控 NETosis [31]。

6. 总结和展望

脓毒血症发病机制复杂且无有效的诊断方式及治疗方案，疾病的预后转归很大程度上依赖于及时识别和早期的干预。NETs 与脓毒症的预后有着密切的关系，其中 NETs 的 MPO-DNA 含量与脓毒症序贯器官衰竭评分(SOFA)呈正相关，降低脓毒血症对 NETs 的形成至关重要。据早期的研究发现，在脓毒血症早期使用 DNA 酶和抗菌药物治疗，可以明显提高脓毒血症小鼠生存率，并减少重要脏器功能障碍的发生。因此，联合治疗在脓毒血症能显著提高脓毒血症患者的预后，其中 NETs 靶向药物的治疗尤为重要。miRNA 分子的调控功能及其表达谱的鉴定在临床上越来越重要。miRNA 作为脓毒症 NETosis 的有效调控因子，同时参与炎症、自噬、凋亡等调控途径。

但是 miRNA 如何精确调控 NETosis，例如 PAD4、ROS、组蛋白的机制尚不清楚，缺乏直接的靶点验证和相关信号通路的考证。在脓毒血症中 miRNA 动态调控 NETosis 的变化规律未给予系统描述。细胞外囊泡携带 miRNA 被中性粒细胞摄取并调控 NETs 形成的机制、选择性包装及受体的识别尚不清晰。目前大部分实验研究基于小鼠和细胞模型，人类中性粒细胞 miRNA 调控 NETs 实验少之又少。MiRNA 作为脓毒血症中 NETs 关键调控因子，应继续进行靶向传递系统的验证，追踪信号通路，进一步明确调控机制，致力于机制到临床转化取得突破。

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