

生物信息学分析联合孟德尔随机化分析在急性心肌梗死中的应用

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摘要

心血管疾病是中国居民死亡的主要原因。为了制定有效和及时地应对心血管疾病流行挑战的策略, 我们需要了解当前主要类型心血管疾病的流行病学特征以及这些特征对其预防和治疗的意义。急性心肌梗死更是心血管疾病最重要的临床表现。近些年来新的生物标志物不断被提出, 为心肌梗死的诊断以及预后的评估提供了新的依据, 国内外近些年来有许多基于生物信息学方法分析心肌梗死相关基因的研究, 也报道了许多应用孟德尔随机化方法分析某暴露因素与心血管疾病之间的风险相关系数。在这篇文章中, 我们概述了生物信息学的特点及应用, 概述了孟德尔随机化分析的定义及应用, 以及在心血管相关疾病的研究进展。

关键词

生物信息学分析, 孟德尔随机化分析, 急性心肌梗死

Application of Bioinformatics Analysis Combined with Mendelian Randomization Analysis in Acute Myocardial Infarction

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Abstract

Cardiovascular diseases are the leading cause of death among China's residents. To develop

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effective and timely strategies to address the challenges posed by the prevalence of cardiovascular diseases, we need to understand the epidemiological characteristics of the major types of cardiovascular diseases currently and their significance for prevention and treatment. Acute myocardial infarction (AMI) is the most important clinical manifestation of cardiovascular diseases. In recent years, new biomarkers have been continuously proposed, providing new evidence for the diagnosis of myocardial infarction and the assessment of prognosis. Numerous studies have been conducted domestically and internationally in recent years, analyzing myocardial infarction-related genes using bioinformatics methods, and many have reported the application of Mendelian randomization to analyze the risk association coefficients between certain exposure factors and cardiovascular diseases. In this article, we outline the characteristics and applications of bioinformatics, provide an overview of the definition and application of Mendelian randomization, and summarize the research progress in cardiovascular-related diseases.

Keywords

Bioinformatics Analysis, Mendelian Randomization Analysis, Acute Myocardial Infarction (AMI)

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1. 前言

2024年《中国心血管健康与疾病报告》指出：随着社会经济的发展，国民生活方式的变化，心血管疾病(Cardiovascular Diseases, CVD)的发病率及其相关危险因素对公众健康的影响日益严重[1]，预计2020~2030年CVD预测发病率、死亡率和伤残调整生命率将继续上升，“中国居民心血管和脑血管事件监测”项目结果也表明18岁及以上中国居民心血管和脑血管疾病的发病率随着年龄的增长而呈快速上升趋势[2]。CVD中冠状动脉性心脏病(Coronary Heart Disease, CHD)占比最高[3]，也是影响人类的健康寿命损失的最重要原因，造成的很大一部分经济负担落在低收入和中等收入国家，同时也是一个巨大的全球经济负担[4]。急性心肌梗死(Acute Myocardial Infarction, AMI)是心源性猝死(Sudden Cardiac Death, SCD)危及生命的冠状动脉事件之一，也是CHD最严重的临床表现，它分为ST段抬高型心肌梗死和非ST段抬高型心肌梗死两类，每年有超过300万人患上ST段抬高型心肌梗死[5]。当肌钙蛋白值升高且至少有一个值高于99%的上限参考值且在临床情况存在心肌缺血时，我们可定义为心肌梗死[6]。心电图作为最基本的辅助检查在诊断急性心肌梗死(AMI)方面的敏感性和特异性较低[7]，因为它具有一定时间相关性、非特异性和唯一性，而且在急性心包炎、左心室肥大、左束支传导阻滞、早期复极模式时也可能观察到ST偏差。出现心肌损伤后血清学心肌坏死标志物也具有时间相关性[8]。而且AMI的常用的血清学炎症标志物不具有特异性，在不稳定型心绞痛中轻微的cTnT升高是常见的，这使得不稳定型心绞痛难以与非ST段抬高型心肌梗死区分[9]。时间就是心肌，早期诊断及治疗急性心肌梗死尤为重要[10]。

2. 生物信息学分析与急性心肌梗死

冠状动脉疾病具有部分遗传性，AMI作为其中一种类型也不例外，同样受遗传因素和环境因素影响[11]，但在基因及表达水平上的研究，尤其是从基因水平上研究候选基因与AMI的相关性处于初始阶段。随着基因测序技术的日益完善，高通量测序技术已进入医疗领域，在疾病的诊断与治疗中的应用日益广泛[12]。高通量测序技术又称为下一代测序技术(Next-generation Sequencing, NGS)，第一张人类基因组图

谱是用桑格测序技术绘制的,它花了13年的时间,集结多方努力以及超过5亿美元来完成。而使用NGS,人类基因组测序可以在48小时内完成,成本少于200美元,而且精确度更高[13]。因此从基因水平上探求特异性血清学标志物对于早期诊断AMI以及治疗靶点具有重要意义,已经成为AMI诊断和治疗的新趋势和热点。代谢物被定义为细胞内由众多酶催化进行的代谢反应所产生的中间产物。由于基因变异和环境因素的影响,它们使我们能够探索基因与环境的相互作用,并更好地理解像心血管疾病这样的多因素疾病。发现生物标志物、改进心血管风险预测和早期疾病诊断,以及探索疾病发生和进展的详细机制。代谢组学已经发展成为研究动脉粥样硬化和心血管疾病复杂病理生理的有力工具[14]。冠状动脉疾病的全基因组关联研究(Genome-Wide Association Analysis, GWAS)已发现超过300个独立信号[15],它的遗传性在多种细胞中显著增强[15],包括血管壁中的内皮细胞、血管平滑肌细胞,以及影响胆固醇代谢的肝细胞[16]。生物信息学分析可用于鉴定和验证急性心肌梗死中的细胞凋亡相关基因[17],可用于验证其他疾病(炎症性肠病)与急性心肌梗死的遗传联系[18],可用于验证与AMI早期阶段有关的循环内皮细胞的早期诊断标志物[19],可用于鉴定中性粒细胞外陷介导的AMI中枢基因,构建了AMI诊断模型,为AMI发生和治疗的分子机制提供了新的思路[20]。生物信息学分析不仅在识别新型生物标志物、调控网络和潜在的治疗靶点等方面具有研究价值,同样在疾病的预防、危险分层以及预后评估等方面发挥着不可小视的作用,并逐渐成为一种更准确、更敏感的方法[21]。

3. 孟德尔随机化分析与急性心肌梗死

孟德尔随机化(Mendelian Randomization, MR)是流行病学中广泛使用的一种重要方法,用于评估暴露因素与临床疾病之间的潜在因果关系。等位基因在受孕时的独立分离意味着它们不受潜在混杂因素的影响,形成类似于随机试验的自然实验,因此MR比传统的观察分析更可靠地了解暴露因素和疾病之间的潜在因果关系,是将疾病表型与一组基因或蛋白质相关联的强大工具[22]。随着大型遗传数据集的日益可用性,MR已成为研究心血管疾病危险因素的强大且易于获取的工具[23]。MR使用来自GWAS数据库的遗传变异作为工具变量,是评估暴露与结果之间潜在因果关系的有用方法[24]。通过孟德尔随机化分析,已经发现了S100A8/A9是急性心肌梗死后心力衰竭的预测因子和潜在的因果关系药物[25],证实了白细胞介素-10和白细胞介素-18都是与AMI遗传相关的外周炎症因子[26],验证了甘油三酯-葡萄糖指数可以作为心血管疾病更灵敏的早期诊断指标,而血糖和甘油三酯的联合指标则能为心脏代谢结果提供定量风险评估[27],探讨了胆石症对AMI存在负面的因果影响,并且提示rs4245791是这种影响的致病位点,为胆石症患者AMI的预防和病因研究提供了新的思路和证据[28],揭示了偏头痛相关特征具有预测和弯曲AMI的意义,为AMI的未来诊断和治疗策略提供信息[29],鉴定出与AMI相关的基因座,强调了吸烟、脂质代谢和炎症与AMI相关的生物学机制的相关性等[30]。总而言之,MR在确立因果关系、验证危险因素、发掘新的致病因素方面卓有成效。但MR亦有它的局限性,首先,孟德尔随机化分析的核心假设是工具变量仅通过暴露因素影响结局,而无多效性。多效性效应是指基因变异对多个生物途径产生的影响。通过另一个特征或途径对所研究的方面产生影响,被称为水平多效性。通过所关注的风险因素对其他特征产生影响,这种现象被称为垂直多效性[31]。水平多效性会干扰孟德尔随机化检验,导致因果效应估计失真、统计功效降低,并可能产生虚假的因果关系结论[32]。我们需要用MR-Egger回归、加权中位数法、MR-PRESSO等敏感性分析来检测水平多效性。由于心血管风险因素与疾病之间共享复杂的遗传网络,广泛存在的多效性仍是孟德尔随机化应用中的潜在局限[33]。其次,连锁不平衡会导致工具变量之间不独立,违反MR核心假设,会导致工具变量的强度将被高估,因果效应估计值产生偏倚[34]。

4. 生物信息学分析联合孟德尔随机化分析

传统的生物信息学分析方法,如差异表达分析、基因集富集分析、蛋白质相互作用网络构建等,在

识别与特定疾病或表型相关的关键分子(如基因、蛋白质、代谢物)和功能通路方面,发挥了不可或缺的作用[35]。但生物信息学分析通常只能揭示分子与表型之间的统计关联,无法区分是因果关系、伴随关系还是反向因果关系。当我们引入孟德尔随机化,利用遗传工具变量,为生物信息学筛选出的关键分子与疾病结局之间提供因果证据。这极大地增强了研究结论的说服力和科学价值[36]。我们可以利用生物信息学筛选候选基因,再通过孟德尔随机化(MR)和共定位分析推断因果关系。通过分析 GEO 数据库中的 AMI 基因表达数据集,利用差异表达基因分析和加权基因共表达网络分析找出关键基因和共表达模块[37]。再根据公开的全基因组关联研究数据,利用 cis-eQTL/pQTL 作为工具变量,通过两样本 MR 分析其与暴露因素与疾病的因果关系[38]。近年来,生物信息学联合 MR 对 AMI 作出了一定的贡献[25] (表 1),发现 TNF 可抑制 AMI 中的炎症和氧化应激反应,对心脏起到保护作用。相信在未来,将生物信息学分析与孟德尔随机化分析联合应用,能够使我们对于疾病的了解更加透彻,也能使患者拥有更精准的个体化治疗。

Table 1. Key molecules identified in the field of acute myocardial infarction (AMI) through bioinformatics combined with mendelian randomization analysis

表 1. 生物信息学联合孟德尔随机化分析在 AMI 领域发现的关键分子

关键分子	类型	暴露与结局	MR 因果效应	主要生物学功能
S100A8/A9	蛋白质	暴露: 血浆蛋白水平 结局: AMI 后心力衰竭	AMI 后 HF 风险: OR \approx 1.04 (每增加 1 个 SD)。	在中性粒细胞中储存, 促进 心肌损伤和炎症。
TNF	蛋白质	暴露: 单核苷酸多态性(SNPs) 结局: AMI	OR = 0.946	由活化的单核或巨噬细胞 产生, 激活 NF- κ B 等信号 通路, 诱导炎症因子释放, 放大炎症反应。

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