

锶调控骨代谢机制的研究进展

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摘要

锶作为一种与钙在化学性质上高度相似的元素, 在骨代谢调控和骨修复过程中表现出显著的促成骨和抑制骨吸收作用, 已被广泛应用于抗骨质疏松治疗及骨组织工程材料的设计中。然而, 锶调控骨代谢的分子机制复杂, 涉及MAPK/ERK、PI3K/Akt、Wnt和NFATc1等多条信号通路, 并且通路之间存在相互影响, 本文总结了近年来关于锶调控骨代谢机制的研究。

关键词

骨代谢, 锶, 钙离子敏感受体

Research Progress on the Mechanisms by Which Strontium Regulates Bone Metabolism

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Abstract

Strontium, an element highly similar to calcium in chemical properties, exhibits significant osteogenic and osteoresorption-inhibiting effects in bone metabolism regulation and bone repair, and has been widely used in osteoporosis treatment and the design of bone tissue engineering materials. However, the molecular mechanisms by which strontium regulates bone metabolism are complex, involving multiple signaling pathways such as MAPK/ERK, PI3K/Akt, Wnt, and NFATc1, and these pathways interact with each other. This article summarizes recent research on the mechanisms by

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which strontium regulates bone metabolism.

Keywords

Bone Metabolism, Strontium, Calcium Ion-Sensitive Receptor

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1. 引言

在骨组织工程中,局部递送成骨活性因子是有效修复骨缺损的常用策略[1]-[3]。以骨形态发生蛋白-2 (Bone Morphogenetic Protein-2, BMP-2)为代表的多肽在骨修复中体现出了良好的成骨效果,但是其高成本,活性不稳定及异位成骨的风险在一定程度上限制了其临床应用[4]。近年来,金属离子因为稳定性高、作用持久且易于通过材料体系实现可控递送等优势而受到广泛关注[5][6]。其中,锶离子作为一种具有成骨活性的二价阳离子,不仅能够促进成骨细胞分化,还可抑制破骨细胞活性,在骨代谢调控中展现出独特的双向调节作用[7][8]。然而,锶调控骨代谢的机制复杂且未完全阐明,尽管已有研究对相关机制进行了总结,但针对相关通路的整合分析及通路间交叉机制的系统梳理仍相对不足。本文就锶的特点及其在骨代谢中的作用机制研究进展做一综述,重点对其在骨代谢中的相关信号通路和通路之间的相互作用进行总结和讨论。

2. 锶的生物学特性

锶位于元素周期表的第4周期,第IIA族,属于碱土金属元素。在人体内,锶主要以二价阳离子的形式存在,高度富集于骨骼和牙齿中[9]。由于锶的离子半径和钙离子相似,其能够在一定程度上替代钙离子参与骨基质矿化过程,并通过钙感受受体(Calcium Ion-Sensitive Receptor, CaSR)介导的信号通路调控骨代谢[10]。早在20世纪中期,研究者即通过动物实验证明锶对骨代谢具有双向调控作用,且具有剂量依赖性[11]。在适宜浓度范围内,锶不仅可以促进成骨细胞的增殖、分化及基质矿化,还可以抑制破骨细胞的分化和骨吸收,而过高剂量的锶则可能干扰钙的代谢和矿物沉积,从而影响骨矿化过程[12]-[14]。随着含锶生物材料的不断发展和应用,研究表明锶还具有一定的免疫调节作用,能通过改善骨缺损局部微环境促进骨修复[15]。基于锶在骨代谢中的多重生物学效应,研究者从细胞水平和分子层面深入探讨了锶调控骨代谢的作用细胞及其相关信号通路。

3. 锶调控骨代谢的相关信号通路

作为一种在化学性质和离子半径上与 Ca^{2+} 相似的二价阳离子, Sr^{2+} 被认为可作用于部分与 Ca^{2+} 相同或相似的细胞靶点。因此, Ca^{2+} 敏感性信号通路被认为是介导 Sr^{2+} 生物学效应的重要途径[10]。CaSR能够感知细胞外 Ca^{2+} 及多种其他二价阳离子浓度变化,并将其转化为细胞内信号级联反应[16]。已有研究证明 Sr^{2+} 可以与CaSR结合并激活 Ca^{2+} 敏感通路如MAPK/ERK、PI3K/Akt和NFATc1,从而产生成骨效应[17]。此外,多条在骨稳态和骨重塑过程中发挥重要调控作用的信号通路,包括Wnt信号通路、RANK/RANKL/OPG系统以及成纤维细胞生长因子(FGF)/FGF受体信号通路,同样被报道与 Sr^{2+} 的成骨效应密切相关[8]。并且,上述通路并非孤立存在,其可能相互影响,相关机制将在下文中进一步综述。

3.1. CaSR 的结构和功能

CaSR 是一种典型的 G 蛋白偶联受体, 主要表达于间充质干细胞、成骨细胞及破骨细胞等细胞的细胞膜上[18] [19]。CaSR 由胞外结构域、七次跨膜结构域及胞内结构域构成, 其中, 较大的胞外结构域负责感知细胞外 Ca^{2+} 及其他二价阳离子的浓度变化, 是 CaSR 行使生物学功能的关键结构基础[18] [19]。

在多数细胞类型中, 当细胞外 Ca^{2+} 浓度升高时, Ca^{2+} 可与 CaSR 结合并激活 CaSR。CaSR 激活后通常通过偶联 Gαq/11 蛋白激活磷脂酶 C (Phospholipase C, PLC), 促使磷脂酰肌醇二磷酸(PIP_2)水解生成三磷酸肌醇(IP_3)和二酰甘油(DAG), IP_3 则可进一步诱导内质网 Ca^{2+} 释放, 从而激活多种 Ca^{2+} 依赖性信号分子和转录调控机制[20]。

3.2. 丝裂原活化蛋白激酶(MAPK)/ERK 通路和磷脂酰肌醇 3-激酶(PI3K)/Akt 通路

MAPK/ERK 和 PI3K/Akt 是细胞内较为经典且高度保守的两条信号转导通路, 在细胞增殖、存活、分化及应激反应等过程中发挥核心调控作用[21] [22]。大鼠肉瘤蛋白(Rat Sarcomaviral Oncogene, Ras)是 MAPK/ERK 和 PI3K/Akt 共同的上游调控因子, 在 CaSR 被激活后, Ras 可由 GDP 结合状态转变为 GTP 结合状态(Ras-GTP), 并启动下游通路的激活[23]。在 MAPK/ERK 通路中, Ras-GTP 招募并激活 RAF 激酶, 继而磷酸化并激活 MEK1/2, 随后 ERK1/2 被磷酸化并转位入核, 调控 Runx2、Osterix 等成骨相关转录因子, 从而促进成骨前体细胞的增殖与早期分化[24]。与此同时, Ras-GTP 还可直接激活 PI3K, 催化 PIP_2 转化为 PIP_3 , 招募并激活 Akt, 进而调控下游 GSK-3β/β-catenin 和 mTOR 等信号, 从而增强成骨细胞存活、代谢活性及基质矿化能力[25]。

已有实验证明, 锶可以激活间充质干细胞中的 Ras, 并使 ERK1/2 和 p38 的磷酸化水平升高, 从而提高 Runx2 的表达并促进间充质干细胞的成骨分化[24]。此外, 研究者还发现聚多巴胺辅助的锶取代羟基磷灰石涂层有效激活了小鼠原代成骨细胞中的 ERK/MAPK 和 PI3K/AKT 信号通路, 并提高了 ALP 活性和成骨基因的表达[26]。值得注意的是, 相比于 ERK1/2-MAPK 通路, PI3K/Akt 通路对成骨的调控并不完全依赖于 CaSR 的活化。Fromigué 等人研究发现, 锶在 CaSR 缺失($\text{CaSR}^{-/-}$)和正常($\text{CaSR}^{+/+}$)小鼠原代成骨细胞中都能促进 Akt 的磷酸化, 而 ERK1/2 的激活只在 $\text{CaSR}^{+/+}$ 细胞中明显, 提示锶激活 PI3K/Akt 信号可能部分独立于 CaSR 的存在[17]。

3.3. Wnt 信号通路

Wnt 信号通路是调控骨形成与骨稳态维持的关键信号网络之一, 根据是否依赖 β-catenin 介导的转录调控, Wnt 通路传统上分为经典(Canonical)和非经典(Non-Canonical)两大类[27]。

在经典 Wnt/β-catenin 通路中, Wnt 配体与细胞膜上的 Frizzled 受体及低密度脂蛋白受体相关蛋白 5/6 (Low-Density Lipoprotein Receptor-Related Protein 5/6, LRP5/6)共受体结合后, 可抑制由 GSK-3β、Axin 和 APC 组成的 β-catenin 降解复合体, 促进 β-catenin 在胞质中稳定积累并转位入核, 从而上调 Runx2、Osterix 等成骨相关转录因子的表达, 促进间充质干细胞向成骨谱系分化, 并增强成骨细胞的成熟与矿化能力[28]。Rybczyn 等人的研究表明, 锶离子可以与 CaSR 结合并激活 PI3K/Akt 信号通路, 活化后的 Akt 可抑制 GSK-3β 的活性, 从而增强 β-catenin 在胞质中的稳定性[29]。该过程并非直接启动经典 Wnt 信号, 而是通过调控 β-catenin 稳定性与经典 Wnt/β-catenin 通路在关键节点上形成协同作用, 共同增强其促成骨效应。

非经典 Wnt 通路主要包括平面细胞极性(Planar Cell Polarity, PCP)通路和 Wnt/ Ca^{2+} 通路, 其激活往往依赖于非经典 Wnt 配体(如 Wnt5a)与 Frizzled 受体及 ROR1/2、RYK 等共受体的配合[30]。Zuzana Saidak 等人的研究证实, 锶可以增加小鼠成骨细胞中 Wnt5a 的表达[8]。Fromigué 等人则证实抑制 Wnt5a 受体 RYK 能部分阻断 Sr^{2+} 诱导的细胞增殖和成骨细胞基因表达[17]。然而, 需要指出的是, 现有研究多集中

于镉诱导 Wnt5a 表达变化及其生物学效应的相关性, 尚缺乏直接证据证明镉可作为非经典 Wnt 通路的特异性上游激活因子。另外, 鉴于镉可通过激活 CaSR 诱导胞内 Ca^{2+} 信号及下游 Ca^{2+} 依赖性通路的激活, 镉可能会通过 CaSR 介导的 Ca^{2+} 信号与 Wnt/ Ca^{2+} 通路发生功能交叉, 从而影响骨细胞行为和骨重塑过程。

3.4. RANK/RANKL/OPG 途径

NF- κ B 受体激动剂(Receptor Activator of NF- κ B, RANK)/RANKL/骨保护素(Osteoprotegerin, OPG)信号通路是调控破骨细胞分化、成熟及骨吸收过程的核心调控轴, 在维持骨重塑动态平衡中发挥关键作用[31]。RANK 主要表达于破骨细胞前体细胞表面, 其配体 RANKL 主要由成骨细胞、骨髓基质细胞及成骨前体细胞分泌[32] [33]。RANKL 与 RANK 结合后可促进破骨细胞的分化和骨吸收。然而, OPG 可以通过与 RANKL 结合阻断其与 RANK 的相互作用, 从而抑制破骨细胞生成, 降低骨吸收水平[34] [35]。

研究表明, 镉可能可以通过 CaSR 依赖性的方式激活 RANK/RANKL/OPG 通路。T C Brennan 等人发现敲低 CaSR 可抑制雷奈酸镉诱导的人原代成骨细胞 OPG 表达上调、RANKL 下调以及细胞增殖, 提示 CaSR 参与到了镉激活 RANK/RANKL/OPG 通路的过程中[10]。除此之外, 镉也可通过 CaSR 非依赖性机制直接降低 RANKL 表达, 从而抑制破骨细胞分化[17]。同时, 镉可能通过激活经典 Wnt/ β -catenin 通路间接影响 RANK/RANKL/OPG 通路, 从而调控骨代谢。研究发现, 镉可以增强 MC3T3-E1 细胞中 LRP6/ β -catenin/OPG 信号通路, 从而抑制破骨细胞分化[36]。但也有研究表明, 在成骨样细胞中, Wnt/ β -catenin 信号通路的激活虽然显著提高了 ALP 活性和骨钙素表达水平, 但对 OPG 的表达影响较小。这表明在不同细胞类型和实验条件下, Wnt/ β -catenin 信号通路的激活对 RANK/RANKL/OPG 的影响有所差异[37]。

3.5. NFATc1 通路

NFATc1 (Nuclear Factor of Activated T-Cells, Cytoplasmic 1)属于 NFAT 家族成员, 在成骨细胞和破骨细胞中发挥重要作用, 也是多种细胞类型发育与免疫反应中的重要下游效应分子[38] [39]。

研究表明, 在成骨细胞中, 镉可以激活 NFATc1 上调成骨相关基因 COL1A1 的表达[40]。在破骨细胞中, NFATc1 经典的激活机制主要依赖于 RANKL/RANK 介导的 Ca^{2+} 信号改变[41]。RANK 与 RANKL 结合后可刺激 PLC 产生 IP_3 , 引发内质网 Ca^{2+} 释放, 进而导致 NFATc1 的激活[42] [43]。但目前尚无明确实验数据表明镉通过抑制破骨细胞表面的 RANK 表达影响 Ca^{2+} 释放及 NFATc1 激活。然而, 研究已证实镉能通过调节成骨细胞和基质中 RANKL 与 OPG 的表达, 从而减弱 RANK 的活化信号[10]。鉴于 RANKL/RANK 信号是引发破骨细胞内 Ca^{2+} 释放的关键上游事件, 这种间接调控有助于理解 Sr^{2+} 抑制破骨分化的分子机制。

3.6. 其他通路

除了上述途径之外, FGF/FGFR 通路和 Smad 通路也被证明和镉调控骨代谢有关[8]。研究表明, 雷奈酸镉可以通过 FGF/FGFR 通路激活多种细胞内通路, 包括 PI3K/Akt 和 ERK1/2 等, 而 FGFR 抑制剂可抑制雷奈酸镉诱导的 MC3T3-E1 细胞和原代成骨细胞的生长[44] [45]。此外, 镉还可以通过增强 BMP/Smad 信号通路, 促进 Smad1/5/8 磷酸化及核转位, 上调 Runx2 等成骨相关转录因子的表达, 从而促进成骨细胞分化与骨形成[46]。

4. 总结

镉促成骨与抑制骨吸收的生物学效应并非依赖于单一信号轴, 而是通过多条信号通路组成的信号网络实现。其中, CaSR 在多条关键信号通路的激活中发挥了核心枢纽作用。镉可通过 CaSR 介导的 Ras-MAPK/ERK 和 PI3K/Akt 直接调控成骨细胞的增殖、生存及分化过程; 与此同时, 其还可通过影响 β -catenin

稳定性、调节 Wnt 信号强度, 与经典 Wnt/ β -catenin 通路在关键节点形成协同效应, 从而进一步放大促成骨信号。在骨吸收调控方面, 锶通过调节成骨细胞来源的 RANKL 与 OPG 表达比例, 抑制破骨细胞分化和活性。此外, 锶对 NFATc1 信号的影响更多体现为对上游 Ca^{2+} 信号和 RANKL/RANK 轴的间接调控, 从而削弱破骨细胞内 NFATc1 的激活。FGF/FGFR 和 BMP/Smad 等信号通路同样参与了锶介导的成骨调控过程, 并形成了动态交互的调控网络。但是, 锶如何激活 NFATc1 及 CaSR 依赖性与非依赖性机制的界限仍有待进一步系统阐明。对这些问题的深入探索, 将为锶基生物材料的开发设计提供更加坚实的理论基础。

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