

# S100A9在纤维化疾病中的研究进展

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## 摘 要

纤维化疾病是多种慢性疾病的终末阶段, 其特点是组织中纤维结缔组织的过度积累, 导致器官结构破坏和功能丧失。S100A9作为S100蛋白家族的重要成员, 在多种炎症性疾病和癌症中的作用已被广泛研究, 但其在纤维化疾病中的作用及机制尚未完全阐明。本文综述了S100A9在肺、肝、肾、心脏及皮肤等主要纤维化疾病中的研究进展, 重点探讨其在细胞信号通路、免疫调节及炎症反应中的作用, 旨在为纤维化疾病的诊断和治疗提供新的研究思路。

## 关键词

S100A9, 纤维化, 炎症

# The Research Progress of S100A9 in Fibrotic Diseases

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## Abstract

Fibrosis is the terminal stage of various chronic diseases, characterized by excessive accumulation of fibrous connective tissue in tissues, leading to organ structural damage and loss of function. As an important member of the S100 protein family, the role of S100A9 in various inflammatory diseases and cancers has been widely studied, but its role and mechanism in fibrotic diseases have not been fully elucidated. This article reviews the research progress of S100A9 in major fibrotic diseases such as lung, liver, kidney, heart, and skin, with a focus on exploring its role in cellular signaling pathways, immune regulation, and inflammatory response, aiming to provide new research

ideas for the diagnosis and treatment of fibrotic diseases.

## Keywords

S100A9, Fibrosis, Inflammation

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## 1. 引言

纤维化是多种慢性疾病的共同特征,包括特发性肺纤维化、肝硬化、硬皮病、心血管疾病(如动脉粥样硬化、心肌梗死)等。这些纤维化相关疾病影响着全球广泛人群,严重影响患者的生活质量,其主要表现为受累器官的功能障碍。

纤维化的发生机制主要包括纤维母细胞的异常活化、细胞外基质(ECM)和胶原的过度沉积[1]。此外,氧化损伤、慢性炎症以及关键信号通路的异常级联反应,在肌成纤维细胞的激活和纤维化状态的持续过程中发挥了重要作用[1][2]。其中,炎症反应是纤维化疾病发生和发展的重要触发因素[3]。在炎症反应过程中,免疫细胞在靶器官(如肾脏、心脏)释放信号从而吸引更多的免疫细胞聚集,并产生炎症介质,从而导致受累器官的损害[4][5]。此外,炎症反应还会通过增加活性氧(ROS)的生成,进一步促进(心脏、肾脏)成纤维细胞的增殖和基质金属蛋白酶的活化,最终导致心脏和肾脏等器官的间质纤维化[5][6]。同时,炎症还会刺激成纤维细胞转化为肌成纤维细胞,进一步加速纤维化进程。

近年来,S100A9(钙粒蛋白 B 或髓系相关蛋白-14,MRP-14)作为一种重要的炎症因子受到广泛关注。S100A9 属于 S100 钙结合蛋白家族,是一种内源性损伤相关分子模式(DAMP)分子,在炎症和组织损伤中发挥重要作用[7]。研究表明,S100A9 及其异二聚体是高级糖基化终产物受体(RAGE)和 Toll 样受体 4 (TLR4)的重要配体[8]。S100A9 释放后,可以促进炎症因子、趋化因子和纤维化标志物的表达,同时刺激成纤维细胞增殖,从而激活炎症反应和加速组织纤维化进程[9][10]。

因此,本综述旨在阐明 S100A9 的生物学效应及其在纤维化疾病中的作用机制。我们将重点讨论 S100A9 在调控炎症反应和加剧组织纤维化中的关键角色。这一研究有助于进一步理解纤维化疾病的发生机制,并为相关疾病的诊疗提供新的思路。

## 2. S100A9 的生物学功能

S100A9 是一种结合钙和锌的蛋白质,由 114 个氨基酸组成,分子量约为 13 kDa。S100A9 主要表达于免疫系统,包括脾脏、骨髓、淋巴结、肺和皮肤等组织[11],通常位于细胞质中,但在细胞内钙浓度升高的情况下,可以转移至细胞骨架和细胞膜,或被分泌到细胞外[12]。

在生理条件下,S100A9 的表达通常较低,主要存在于中性粒细胞、单核细胞和早期分化的巨噬细胞等免疫细胞中[13]。然而,在病理条件下,S100A9 由多种细胞类型(如中性粒细胞、单核细胞、巨噬细胞、树突状细胞)分泌至细胞外[14]。

S100A9 在免疫调控中具有多重功能。例如它能够调控中性粒细胞的浸润、迁移和募集,同时刺激中性粒细胞的生成、激活和脱颗粒[15]。此外,S100A9 还能刺激单核细胞的生成,调节单核细胞的浸润,并诱导单核细胞迁移[16]。S100A9 还调控巨噬细胞的表型转化和浸润,增加巨噬细胞的募集,并诱导巨

噬细胞迁移[17]。尽管 S100A9 在免疫细胞的功能调控中起着积极作用，但也有研究表明，S100A9 能够抑制树突状细胞的分化，从而影响抗原呈递功能[18]。

### 3. S100A9 参与纤维化的分子机制

#### 3.1. S100A9 在炎症反应中调控作用

在各种刺激下，S100A9 水平显著升高，随后促进白细胞的活化和迁移，大量白细胞聚集到炎症损伤部位，继而分泌多种促炎因子、活性氧(ROS)和其他物质，从而引发炎症[19]。然而，近年来的研究表明，S100A9 在某些病理状态下也可能具有抗炎作用。例如，在 1 型糖尿病(T1DM)中，S100A9 通过调节免疫反应，表现出抗炎特性，从而减轻糖尿病相关的炎症反应，改善疾病进程[20]。同时，有研究表明，在银屑病和关节炎病变部位，S100A8/S100A9 四聚体同样具有抗炎作用[21]。此外，研究发现，S100A8/A9 通过与炎症信号通路相互作用，参与心肌纤维化、细胞凋亡以及自噬等重要生物过程的调节，从而加速心肌纤维化的进展[22]。

#### 3.2. S100A9 在氧化应激中的作用

除了调控炎症，S100A9 还在氧化应激中发挥重要作用。在代谢性疾病中，S100A9 与肥胖和动脉粥样硬化密切相关。其与 p53 共同参与脂肪细胞的增大和炎症反应[23]。同时，在脓毒症性心脏病中，S100A9 通过与 ATP5 相互作用，引起线粒体功能障碍和氧化应激，进而加剧心肌损伤[24]。此外，动物模型和细胞实验表明，特异性抑制 S100A9 可有效减轻氧化应激引起的病理变化[25]。

#### 3.3. S100A9 的受体及信号通路

S100A9 具有多种受体，其中 Toll 样受体 4 (TLR4)和高级糖基化终产物受体(RAGE)是研究最广泛的两个受体。

##### 3.3.1. TLR4 受体

当 S100A9 与其经典受体 TLR4 结合后激活下游 MyD88，进一步激活 NF- $\kappa$ B 和 MAPK 信号级联反应，诱导多种促炎因子(如 IL-1 $\beta$ 、TNF- $\alpha$ )的表达，从而加剧炎症反应和组织损伤[10] [26]-[28]。在肝纤维化中，S100A8/A9 通过 TLR4 通路促进骨髓间充质基质细胞(BMSCs)和肝星状细胞(HSCs)的迁移，加速纤维化进程[26] [29]。在糖尿病肾病和梗阻性肾病中，S100A8/A9 通过 TLR4 通路诱导肾小管上皮细胞的上皮-间质转化(EMT)，进一步加剧肾间质纤维化[27] [28]。此外，在慢性气道疾病中，S100A9 通过 TLR4 介导气道上皮细胞 MUC5AC 的过量产生，与中性粒细胞主导的气道炎症密切相关[30] [31]。这些研究一致表明，S100A9 通过 TLR4 信号通路在炎症反应、细胞迁移、纤维化进展以及气道黏液分泌等病理过程中具有核心作用。

##### 3.3.2. RAGE 受体

S100A9 另一个经典受体是 RAGE，S100A9 与细胞膜表面结合后，激活多种下游信号通路，如 NF- $\kappa$ B 和 ERK1/2 MAPK，导致炎症因子(如 IL-1 $\beta$ 、IL-6 和 TNF- $\alpha$ )的表达增加，从而引发炎症反应[31]-[33]。在特发性肺纤维化(IPF)中，S100A9 通过 RAGE 介导的信号通路不仅促进肺成纤维细胞的增殖，还诱导其分化为肌成纤维细胞并产生大量胶原蛋白，从而加剧纤维化进程[34]。此外，在多囊肾病和梗阻性肾病中，S100A9-RAGE 轴通过激活 NF- $\kappa$ B 和 ERK1/2 通路调控炎症反应，诱导上皮-间质转化(EMT)并促进纤维化[28] [35]。值得注意的是，RAGE 不仅在炎症过程中发挥关键作用，还可能通过调控 F-肌动蛋白(F-actin)、ZO-1 和闭合蛋白(occludin)诱导内皮功能障碍[28] [31]。这些研究表明，S100A9 与 RAGE 之间的相互作用在多种炎症性和纤维化性疾病中具有关键作用。

## 4. S100A9 的临床意义

### 4.1. S100A9 与肾脏纤维化

肾纤维化是多种肾脏疾病(如急性肾损伤、糖尿病肾病和梗阻性肾病)的共同终末病理特征,其特征是肾小管上皮细胞损伤、和间质中胶原的过度沉积,其病因复杂多样,其中炎症反应参与了其发病机制。S100A9 作为一种损伤相关分子模式(DAMP),在炎症环境中显著表达,并通过激活 TLR4 或 RAGE 信号通路介导促炎反应和纤维化进展[28] [36]。研究发现, S100A9 可通过诱导肾小管上皮细胞的上皮-间质转化(EMT),导致肾小管上皮细胞丧失极性、细胞周期阻滞和不可逆损伤,最终加重肾间质纤维化[28]。此外,在糖尿病肾病中, S100A9 在肾小管上皮细胞中的异常表达并通过 TLR4/NF- $\kappa$ B 信号通路促进 EMT 过程,并驱动纤维化的进展[27]。有趣的是,在缺血再灌注(I/R)引起的急性肾损伤中, S100A9 不仅在损伤早期通过促进 Ly6chi 巨噬细胞浸润和炎症扩增加剧损伤,还在修复阶段通过影响巨噬细胞的极化(抑制 M2 型巨噬细胞)调控组织修复,从而导致纤维化和胶原沉积[36]。单细胞 RNA 测序进一步揭示, S100A9 高表达的 Ly6chi 巨噬细胞是急性肾损伤炎症反应的早期驱动者,其浸润水平与肾损伤和纤维化的严重程度密切相关[37]。

综上所述, S100A9 通过多种机制在肾纤维化的发生和进展中发挥关键作用,包括诱导 EMT、激活 TLR4 和 RAGE 信号通路以及调控巨噬细胞的炎症反应和极化。靶向抑制 S100A8/A9 的异常表达为肾纤维化的治疗提供了新的思路和潜在的治疗策略。

### 4.2. S100A9 与心脏纤维化

心肌梗死(MI)是由冠状动脉血流减少或中断导致心肌严重缺血性坏死的病理状态[38] [39]。在 MI 的急性期,心肌细胞死亡通过 DAMPs (如 S100A9)的释放触发炎症级联反应[40]。研究表明, S100A9 在 MI 后数小时内迅速升高,并通过激活 Myd88/NF $\kappa$ B/NLRP3 信号通路放大局部和全身的炎症反应[41] [42]。S100A9 的高表达不仅刺激中性粒细胞和巨噬细胞浸润,还通过促进髓系细胞的生成,加剧了梗死区域的炎症[40] [43]。这一过程中,炎性细胞因子的持续释放和胶原蛋白沉积的启动为心肌纤维化奠定了基础[44]。

在 MI 后的炎症阶段, S100A9 通过上调 Nur77 促进炎性 Ly6Chi 单核细胞向修复性 Ly6Clo 巨噬细胞转化,从而在心肌修复中发挥一定的积极作用[45] [46]。然而, S100A9 也被发现可激活 TGF- $\beta$ /p-smad3 信号通路,诱导心肌成纤维细胞转化为肌成纤维细胞,进一步加速胶原蛋白沉积和纤维化[46]。此外, S100A9 通过巨噬细胞-肌成纤维细胞转化(MMT)机制,直接参与心肌纤维化的进展[46]。这一双向调节作用表明, S100A9 既是炎症反应的重要介质,也是纤维化发生和发展的关键分子。

在 MI/R 模型中, Li 等[43]的研究发现, S100A9 的表达水平与心肌损伤程度密切相关。S100A9 基因敲除的小鼠显示出显著减小的梗死面积及改善的心功能,而 S100A9 过表达则加剧了心肌损伤[43]。这一现象可能与 S100A9 通过 TLR4/ERK 信号通路抑制线粒体功能恢复,促进炎症和心肌细胞死亡有关[43]。同时, S100A9 对线粒体自噬的调控作用进一步放大了炎症信号,促进纤维化启动[45]。这些研究强调了 S100A9 在 MI/R 中促炎和促纤维化的核心作用。

### 4.3. S100A9 与肝脏纤维化

S100A9 在肝纤维化中的作用逐渐引起重视。研究发现, S100A9 是一种参与炎症反应的钙结合蛋白,广泛表达于中性粒细胞、单核细胞及巨噬细胞中,是多种炎症性疾病的关键调节因子,在肝纤维化的发生与发展中具有重要作用。研究表明, S100A9 在肝纤维化组织中的表达显著增加并与肝损伤及纤维化程度呈正相关[47]。通过激活 TLR4 信号通路, S100A9 能够诱导巨噬细胞和肝星状细胞(HSCs)的活化,促

进  $\alpha$ -SMA 和胶原蛋白等纤维化因子的分泌[29]。此外,中性粒细胞分泌的 S100A8/A9 在脂肪性肝病 (NAFLD)相关的纤维化中显著增加,并通过重塑 HSCs 的微丝骨架,促进其向受损肝组织的迁移及向成纤维细胞样表型的转分化,从而加速纤维化进程[26]。

S100A9 还通过调控巨噬细胞的极化状态在肝纤维化中发挥重要作用。巨噬细胞的 Ly6C<sup>high</sup> 表型倾向促炎,而 Ly6C<sup>low</sup> 表型具有抗炎功能。研究发现,中脑星形胶质细胞来源的神经营养因子(MANF)通过与 S100A8 竞争性结合,抑制 S100A8/A9 异二聚体的形成,阻断 TLR4 信号通路,降低巨噬细胞 Ly6C<sup>high</sup> 表型的比例,从而减轻肝纤维化[29]。尽管如此,S100A9 的功能在某些病理条件下存在争议。例如,S100A9 的缺失对慢性肝炎或肝细胞癌(HCC)的发展并未显示显著影响[48]。因此,进一步研究 S100A9 的组织特异性及其与其他促炎因子间的交互作用,将有助于全面理解其在肝纤维化中的作用,为靶向治疗提供新的策略。

#### 4.4. S100A9 与肺纤维化

近年来,研究发现钙结合蛋白 S100A9 不仅是特发性肺纤维化(IPF)的重要促纤维化因子,还可以作为 IPF 的潜在新型诊断生物标志物。既往研究发现,S100A9 在特发性肺纤维化患者的血清、支气管肺泡灌洗液及肺组织中显著升高[49]-[51]。例如,急性加重期特发性肺纤维化患者的血清中 S100A9 水平明显高于疾病稳定期患者[52]。此外,S100A9 与 BALF 中中性粒细胞百分比呈正相关,提示其可能通过促进中性粒细胞的浸润加剧炎症反应[51]。

除了在疾病诊断和预后中的作用,S100A9 还通过一系列促纤维化的机制参与了 IPF 的病理进程。在纤维化肺组织中,S100A9 主要由中性粒细胞和巨噬细胞分泌,其水平在炎症区和纤维化区显著升高[32] [53]。S100A9 通过与晚期糖基化终产物受体(RAGE)结合,激活 ERK1/2-MAPK 和 NF- $\kappa$ B 信号通路,促进肺成纤维细胞的增殖、分化以及胶原蛋白的过度沉积[32]。此外,S100A9 还通过诱导内皮-间质转化 (EndMT)加速纤维化的进程[8]。

动物实验进一步验证了 S100A9 的致病作用。在博来霉素(BLM)诱导的肺纤维化小鼠模型中,使用 S100A9 抑制剂(如 Paquinimod)显著减轻了肺纤维化程度,减少了胶原蛋白沉积和炎症细胞浸润,并改善了肺功能[34]。这些结果表明,S100A9 在肺纤维化中发挥了关键的促纤维化作用,同时也为靶向 S100A9 的治疗策略提供了新的方向。

#### 4.5. S100A9 与皮肤纤维化

在皮肤纤维化疾病中,S100A9 也发挥了重要作用。研究表明,S100A9 在博来霉素诱导的小鼠皮肤纤维化模型中高表达,而且通过激活 ERK1/2 MAPK 和 NF- $\kappa$ B 信号通路,诱导  $\alpha$ -SMA 和促纤维化因子的上调,加重皮肤纤维化[33] [54]。S100A9 还通过调控免疫细胞功能促进纤维化进程,例如诱导巨噬细胞 M2 极化,以增强成纤维细胞活化和细胞外基质沉积。此外,角质形成细胞的异常分化也会引发 S100A9 及其相关促纤维化因子的分泌,从而间接加剧纤维化。靶向 S100A9 的药物 Paquinimod 通过抑制其与 RAGE 和 TLR4 的结合,可有效减少巨噬细胞 M2 极化及促纤维化基因的表达,从而显著缓解实验模型中的皮肤纤维化[55]。此外,S100A9 在皮肤屏障功能受损和纤维化之间的联系中发挥了双重作用。S100A9 的上调导致水合作用下降,并通过 RAGE 和 TLR4 途径激活成纤维细胞,进一步加重纤维化。其在创伤愈合和瘢痕形成中也发挥重要作用,部分机制涉及创伤愈合相关基因的选择性剪接调控[9] [56]。

### 5. S100A9 作为治疗靶点的临床应用前景

S100A9 作为一种与损伤相关的分子模式蛋白,广泛参与多种疾病的免疫反应和纤维化进程。近年来,

针对 S100A9 的研究逐步深入, 其抑制剂已被应用于系统性硬化症等疾病的临床试验阶段。由于 S100A9 在纤维化疾病中的高表达, 其作为治疗靶点的潜力受到了广泛关注。研究表明, S100A9 抑制剂如 Paquinimod 在系统性硬化症 II 期临床试验中显示出良好的疗效和安全性[57]。此外, 特发性肺纤维化(IPF)患者血清和肺泡灌洗液中 S100A9 水平显著升高, 与患者的不良预后密切相关, 这进一步支持了 S100A9 作为治疗靶点的潜力[58]。在动物模型中, Paquinimod 通过抑制 S100A9 的活性, 能够有效减轻肺部和肾脏等器官的纤维化。比如, 在 IPF 小鼠模型中, Paquinimod 不仅减轻了肺纤维化, 还减少了炎症细胞的浸润, 并抑制了内皮-间充质转化(EMT)过程[58]。此外, 在糖尿病肾病小鼠模型中, S100A8/A9 的异常表达通过 TLR4/NF- $\kappa$ B 信号通路加速 EMT 过程, 进而促进肾间质纤维化, 而 Paquinimod 通过干扰 S100A8/A9 的表达显著抑制了这一病理变化[27]。这些研究结果表明, S100A9 抑制剂在多种纤维化相关疾病中表现出良好的抗纤维化作用, 并通过调节关键信号通路减轻疾病进程, 为未来开发基于 S100A9 的治疗策略提供了坚实的理论基础和实验依据。

尽管目前这些抑制剂尚未广泛应用于其他纤维化疾病的临床试验, 但其在多种动物模型中的成功应用突显了其未来的治疗潜力和临床应用前景。

## 6. 结语

综上所述, S100A9 在多种器官纤维化中发挥了关键作用, 其机制涉及炎症反应的启动与维持、成纤维细胞活化及细胞外基质沉积。作为一种重要的 DAMP 分子, S100A9 通过 TLR4、RAGE 及相关信号通路在炎症与纤维化之间架起了桥梁。针对 S100A9 的异常表达, 靶向抑制为肾、心、肝、肺及皮肤纤维化的治疗提供了新的思路。然而, S100A9 在不同病理条件下的组织特异性作用及与其他信号分子的交互仍需深入探讨, 以进一步明确其作为治疗靶点的有效性与安全性。这将为开发创新的抗纤维化策略开辟新方向。

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