

薯蓣皂苷元对非酒精性脂肪性肝病小鼠 脂质代谢的影响*

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[摘要] 目的:探讨薯蓣皂苷元对高脂饮食诱导的非酒精性脂肪性肝病(non-alcoholic fatty liver disease, NAFLD)模型小鼠肝组织脂质沉积与血清甘油三酯(triglyceride, TG)、总胆固醇(total cholesterol, TC)水平的影响。方法:将40只雄性ICR小鼠按随机数字表法分为对照组、模型组、薯蓣皂苷元高、低剂量组及非诺贝特组,每组8只。对照组予普通饲料;模型组予45%脂肪供能的高脂饲料;薯蓣皂苷元高、低剂量组分别予薯蓣皂苷元混合饲料,即每千克高脂饲料中分别含薯蓣皂苷元10 g和5 g;非诺贝特组予非诺贝特混合饲料,即每千克高脂饲料中含非诺贝特200 mg,连续干预16周。应用苏木精-伊红染色法(hematoxylin-eosin staining, HE)观察肝组织病理形态学变化;油红O染色法观察肝脏脂肪沉积情况;测定血清TG和TC表达水平。结果:HE染色结果显示:模型组小鼠脂肪变性程度较对照组严重,薯蓣皂苷元高、低剂量组和非诺贝特组肝细胞胞浆内空泡样变减轻。油红O染色结果显示:模型组小鼠肝组织脂肪含量高于对照组,而薯蓣皂苷元高、低剂量组及非诺贝特组肝细胞脂肪含量降低。与对照组比较,模型组小鼠血清TG和TC水平均升高($P < 0.01$);与模型组比较,薯蓣皂苷元高、低剂量组和非诺贝特组TG和TC水平均降低($P < 0.01$);与非诺贝特组比较,薯蓣皂苷元高、低剂量组TG和TC表达水平差异无统计学意义($P > 0.05$)。结论:薯蓣皂苷元能够降低高脂饮食诱导的NAFLD模型小鼠肝细胞脂肪变性程度和脂肪含量及血清TG和TC表达水平。

[关键词] 脂肪性肝病, 非酒精性; 脂质代谢; 薯蓣皂苷元; 小鼠**[中图分类号]** R256.49 **[文献标识码]** A **[文章编号]** 2096-9600(2025)02-0006-05

Impacts of Diosgenin on Lipid Metabolism in Non-alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease Mice

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Abstract Objective: To survey the influence of diosgenin on the levels of TG and TC, lipid deposition in liver tissue of the mice with non-alcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD) induced by high fat diet. Methods: Forty male ICR mice were allocated to the control group, the model group, high and low dosage groups of diosgenin, and fenofibrate group with eight in each group. The control group was fed with common fodder, the model group was given high-fat feed with 45% fat for energy; diosgenin mixed forage, that is, each kilogram of high-fat feed contained 10 g and 5 g of diosgenin respectively, was administered to high and low dosage groups of diosgenin respectively; fenofibrate-mixed fodder, that is, each kilogram of high-fat feed included fenofibrate 200 mg, was given to fenofibrate group, all the groups accepted 16 consecutive weeks of the treatment. HE staining was applied to observe the pathomorphology of liver tissue; oil red O (ORO) staining was utilized to observe the fat deposition in the liver; to detect the expressions of serum TG and TC. Results: HE staining results displayed that the degrees of adipose degeneration of the model group were severer than these of the control group, intracytoplasmic vacuolation was reduced in high and low dosage groups of diosgenin, and fenofibrate group. ORO staining showed that: fat contents of the liver tissue of the model group were higher than these of the control group, while fat contents in hepatic cell were lowered in high and low dosage groups of diosgenin, and fenofibrate group. Compared with the control group, the levels of TG and TC were elevated in the model group ($P < 0.01$); Compared with the model group, the levels of TG and TC were lowered in high and low dosage groups of diosgenin, and fenofibrate group ($P < 0.01$); no statistical difference was found in the levels of TG and TC when high and low dosage groups of diosgenin were compared with fenofibrate group ($P > 0.05$). Conclusion: Diosgenin could reduce adipose degeneration in hepatic cells and fat contents in NAFLD mice models induced by high-fat food, and the expressions of TG and TC.

Keywords fatty liver disease, non-alcoholic; lipid metabolism; diosgenin; mice

非酒精性脂肪性肝病(non-alcoholic fatty liver disease, NAFLD)是指肝脏病理改变类似于酒精性脂肪肝炎而又无饮酒史的一类慢性肝脏疾病,以肝细胞脂肪变性和脂质贮积为特征。NAFLD病理发展阶段包括:单纯性肝脂肪沉积、非酒精性脂肪性肝炎(non-alcoholic steatohepatitis, NASH)到脂肪性肝纤维化及与其相关的肝硬化和肝细胞癌^[1]。由于NAFLD患病率高,病程长,最终可能进展为终末期肝病,并与肝细胞癌的发生发展密切相关^[2],近年来成为研究者关注的热点之一。

目前,西医学尚无治疗NAFLD的特效药物。研究发现,中药复方如柴胡理中汤、疏肝健脾方、滋脾降糖方、东方肝康口服液等具有降低血脂,改善肝功能,修复肝损伤,减轻肝纤维化等作用,可用于治疗NAFLD^[3-4]。中药复方甘枣宁主要由大枣、山药、山楂、佛手、荷叶、玉米须组成,前期研究发现甘枣宁能减轻高脂饮食诱导下大鼠NAFLD的形成^[5]。但其成分复杂,作用靶点较多^[6-7],其有效成分的作用机制尚未明确。薯蓣皂苷元是从甘枣宁主要组成药物山药中分离提取的活性成分,前期研究显示其具有抗肿瘤,调节血脂、免疫及保护心脑血管等作用^[8-11]。本研究观察薯蓣皂苷元对高脂饮食诱导的NAFLD模型小鼠的影响,探讨薯蓣皂苷元对NAFLD模型小鼠的干预作用及其作用机制。

1 材料与方法

1.1 实验动物 40只健康ICR小鼠,雄性,6~8周龄,体质量(20±2)g,由中国科学院上海实验动物中心提供,动物许可证号:SYXK(沪)2017-0004。动物饲养于海军军医大学动物实验中心,饲养条件:普通清洁级环境,每天7:00~19:00进行光照,温度22℃,自由饮水和进食。为减少环境变化对实验动物的影响,所有动物预先饲养1周后再开展实验。

1.2 实验药物及试剂 薯蓣皂苷元(上海源叶科技有限公司,批号:S31698-350g,规格:350g/瓶);非诺贝特胶囊(RECIPHARM FONTAINE,进口药品注册号H20181239);戊巴比妥钠(Sigma,批号:WS20150310,规格:100g/瓶);4%多聚甲醛固定液(上海谷歌生物科技实验服务中心,批号:140926,规格:500mL/瓶)。苏木素-伊红染色试剂盒(上海碧云天生物技术有限公司,批号:C0105M);OTC胶(美国SAKURA樱花,批号:4583,规格:118mL/瓶);油红O染色试剂盒(上海碧云天生物技术有限公司,批号:C0158M);盐酸(国药集团化学试剂有限

公司,批号:10011018,规格:500mL/瓶);乙醇(国药集团化学试剂有限公司,批号:XW00641751,规格:500mL/瓶);二甲苯(德国达姆施塔特默克集团,批号:534056;规格:500mL/瓶);Amplex Red甘油三酯检测试剂盒(上海碧云天生物技术有限公司,批号:S0219S);Amplex Red胆固醇与胆固醇酯检测试剂盒(上海碧云天生物技术有限公司,批号:S0211S)。

1.3 实验分组及干预方法 将40只雄性ICR小鼠随机分为对照组、模型组、薯蓣皂苷元高、低剂量组及非诺贝特组,每组8只。动物模型参考文献[10]进行构建,模型构建成功后进行干预。对照组予普通饲料;模型组予高脂饲料(脂肪供能45%);薯蓣皂苷元高、低剂量组,药物质量比均为1%,即用每千克高脂饲料分别添加10、5g薯蓣皂苷元;非诺贝特组:每千克高脂饲料中添加200mg非诺贝特。每组均干预16周。

1.4 实验取材 干预16周后取材,使用1%戊巴比妥钠溶液,按50mg/kg剂量麻醉小鼠。眼球取血1.2mL,室温静置4h后,4℃,离心半径10cm,3000r/min离心15min,取上层血清备用,每管50μL分装并置于-80℃冰箱保存;观察各组小鼠肝脏一般情况后,切取2份0.5cm×0.5cm×0.3cm大小肝脏组织,一份肝脏组织以4%多聚甲醛固定液固定,常温保存,用于苏木精-伊红染色法(hematoxylin-eosin staining, HE)染色;另一份肝脏组织在液氮下OTC胶冰冻固定,置于-80℃冰箱保存,用于油红O染色。

1.5 检测指标

1.5.1 肝组织病理形态学观察 将甲醛固定的肝组织置于切片机切片,每片10μm。切片固定30s,稍后水洗1~2s;苏木素染色2min(60℃),水洗5~10s,1%盐酸乙醇1~3s促分化,促蓝液返蓝20s,水洗30s;伊红素染色1min,蒸馏水水洗1~2s;酒精脱水(80%、90%、100%)各2s,二甲苯透明,中性树胶封片固定然后光镜下观察,随机选取4个视野拍照。

1.5.2 肝脏脂质沉积情况 将冰冻肝组织置于切片机切片,每片10μm,然后置于甲醛钙中固定10min,蒸馏水洗1~2s,使用油红O染液染色10min,60%乙醇促分化、水洗,苏木素复染、水洗,甘油封片。光镜下观察,随机选取4个视野拍照。

1.5.3 血清甘油三酯(triglyceride, TG)和总胆固醇(total cholesterol, TC)检测 按照TG、TC试剂盒说明书配制工作液,设立标准品组、样本空白对照组及样品组,然后将标准品、样品依次加入

96孔板,并加入工作液补足到50 μL,每组3个复孔,37℃避光反应60 min,酶标仪A570处检测吸光度值。建立标准曲线,并计算样品中TG和TC浓度。

1.6 统计学方法 采用SPSS 18.0分析数据,计量资料以 $\bar{x}\pm s$ 表示,采用单因素方差分析,组间两两比较采用LSD-*t*检验, $P<0.05$ 为差异有统计学意义。

2 结果

2.1 小鼠肝脏一般情况 对照组小鼠肝脏形态正常,颜色鲜红,表面光滑,边缘锐利,质地红润柔软;模型组小鼠肝脏体积增大,颜色呈棕黄色,肝叶粘连,肝脏切面油腻;薯蓣皂苷元高、低剂量组和非诺贝特组小鼠肝脏色泽浅黄,质地、体积介于对照组与模型组之间,肉眼观察差别不明显。

2.2 肝脏组织病理形态学变化 HE染色显示,对照组小鼠肝脏肝小叶结构清晰完整,肝细胞内未见脂肪变性,细胞核位于细胞中央;模型组小鼠肝细胞体积明显增大,肝细胞胞浆内存在大小不等的空泡,细胞核被挤向一边,部分细胞出现气球样变,脂肪变性程度较对照组严重;与模型组相比,非诺贝特组和薯蓣皂苷元高、低剂量组小鼠肝细胞胞浆内空泡样变减轻。见图1。

2.3 肝脏脂质沉积 油红O染色显示,模型组小鼠肝组织切片油红染色可见细胞内脂滴呈片状分布,封片后脂滴聚集于切片表面,脂肪含量高于对照组。与模型组相比,非诺贝特组及薯蓣皂苷元高、低剂量组肝细胞脂肪含量较低。见图2。

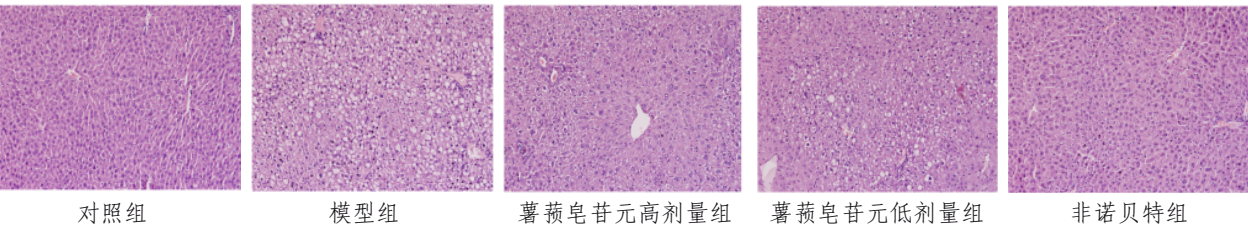


图1 各组小鼠肝脏组织病理学形态(HE, ×200)

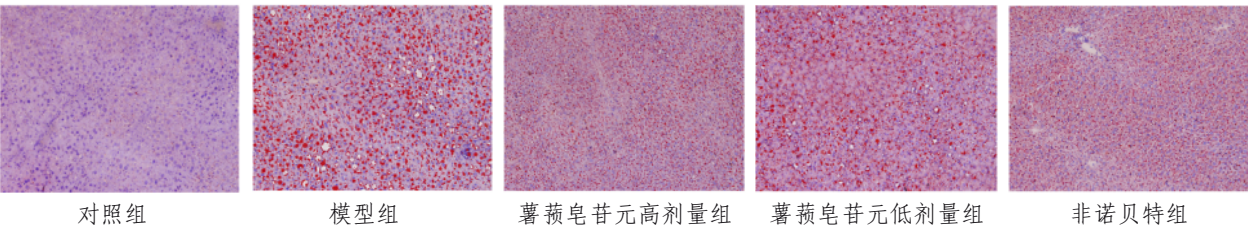


图2 各组小鼠肝脏脂质沉积情况(油红O, ×200)

2.4 血清TG和TC水平 与对照组比较,模型组小鼠血清TG和TC水平均升高($P<0.01$);与模型组比较,薯蓣皂苷元高、低剂量组和非诺贝特组TG和TC水平均降低($P<0.01$);与非诺贝特组比较,薯蓣皂苷元高、低剂量组TG和TC表达水平差异无统计学意义($P>0.05$)。见表1。

表1 各组小鼠血清TG、TC表达水平比较($\bar{x}\pm s$) mmol/L			
组别	鼠数	TG	TC
对照组	8	1.29 ± 0.32	6.40 ± 0.73
模型组	8	2.12 ± 0.25*	18.11 ± 3.56*
薯蓣皂苷元高剂量组	8	0.88 ± 0.19 [#]	7.60 ± 0.93 [#]
薯蓣皂苷元低剂量组	8	1.41 ± 0.26 [#]	8.32 ± 0.84 [#]
非诺贝特组	8	0.95 ± 0.27 [#]	11.19 ± 1.66 [#]

注:*表示与对照组比较, $P<0.01$;[#]表示与模型组比较, $P<0.01$

3 讨论

近年来,随着生活水平的提高,NAFLD的患病率呈上升趋势,其与包括肝细胞癌和死亡在内的

不良预后相关^[12]。NAFLD是一种与胰岛素抵抗(insulin resistance, IR)和遗传易感密切相关的代谢应激性肝脏损伤,同时也是糖尿病和心血管疾病的一个独立危险因素^[13-15]。然而,目前尚无临床试验确定有效和安全的治疗NAFLD的药物^[16]。常用的改善IR的药物如二甲双胍、利拉鲁肽和格列酮可改善肝细胞对胰岛素的敏感性,对NAFLD有一定治疗作用,但这些药物因存在安全问题或尚未证实对肝组织学有效而无法广泛使用^[17-19];他汀类降血脂药物能够降低外周血及肝脏TG水平,也常用于NAFLD的治疗,但他汀类药物对改善NAFLD患者组织学无明显效果^[19-20]。因此,寻找和开发有效治疗NAFLD的药物至关重要。研究发现,中药及其提取物能够改善IR和肝脏脂质沉积及炎症反应,可能是开发治疗NAFLD新型药物的重要来源^[21]。

《非酒精性脂肪性肝病中医诊疗专家共识(2023)》指出脾虚运化失常为NAFLD的根本病机,

治疗当时时刻注意健脾^[22],全国名中医凌昌全基于NAFLD病机拟制了药食两用复方甘枣宁,在NAFLD防治中取得了良好效果。研究表明甘枣宁能够改善高脂饮食诱导的大鼠NAFLD,减轻肝细胞脂肪变性,对NAFLD具有良好疗效^[5,23-24]。山药是复方甘枣宁的主要组成药物之一,具有补肾健脾功效。现代研究表明,山药主要活性成分薯蓣皂苷元能够防治高脂饮食诱导的高脂血症,降低血浆和肝脏总胆固醇水平^[11,25-26]。本研究结果发现,薯蓣皂苷元可改善高脂饮食诱导的NAFLD模型小鼠肝脏脂肪变性,降低血清TG和TC水平,提示薯蓣皂苷元是甘枣宁发挥治疗NAFLD的有效活性成分之一。薯蓣皂苷片是临床常用药物,具有降血压、降低甘油三酯和总胆固醇的作用。薯蓣皂苷在体内能够被代谢转化为薯蓣皂苷元,研究显示,其能调节NAFLD血脂水平,改善IR、减轻氧化应激^[27-28]。因此,本研究结果可能能够扩大薯蓣皂苷元的适应症,为开发有效治疗NAFLD的药物提供实验依据。

近年来,随着人们对NAFLD认识的不断深入,抗NAFLD药物的研发取得了一定进展。但目前唯一被认为有效的疗法仍然是干预生活方式^[29]。本研究结果提示,从天然药物中提取的活性成分薯蓣皂苷元能有效改善NAFLD动物模型肝脏脂质代谢,可能是开发治疗NAFLD新型药物的重要来源。

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