

· 神经病理与人脑组织库建设 ·

成人晚发型丙酸血症分子病理学分析:附一例报告并文献复习

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【摘要】目的 首次报道1例国内PCCB基因突变致成人晚发型丙酸血症患者,总结其临床和分子病理学特点。**方法与结果** 男性患者,18岁,临床主要表现为急性发病的双侧基底节区对称性损伤导致的代谢性脑病伴不自主运动。干血斑串联质谱(MS/MS)法显示丙酰肉碱(C3)为10.37 μmol/L,丙酰肉碱/乙酰肉碱(C3/C2)比值为0.69;尿液气相色谱-质谱(GC/MS)法显示尿液3-羟基丙酸为18 μmol/L,甲基枸橼酸为12.70 μmol/L。基因检测显示,患者存在PCCB基因外显子10 c.1087T>C(p.Ser363Pro)纯合突变,其父母存在PCCB基因外显子10 c.1087T>C(p.Ser363Pro)杂合突变,符合家系共分离现象,该突变位点符合疑似致病性变异。最终分子病理诊断为晚发型丙酸血症。经限制蛋白饮食、大剂量左卡尼汀、降氨治疗后症状明显改善,复查干血斑(MS/MS法)和尿液(GC/MS法)有机酸测定,丙酸和尿液3-羟基丙酸显著下降。**结论** PCCB基因外显子10 c.1087T>C(p.Ser363Pro)为罕见的疑似致病性变异,干血斑(MS/MS法)和尿液(GC/MS法)有机酸检测联合全外显子组测序在晚发型丙酸血症的诊断中具有重要应用价值。

【关键词】 丙酸血症; 基因; 突变; 质谱分析法; 病理学, 分子

Molecular pathology report of late-onset propionic acidemia in adults: one case report and literature review

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【Abstract】 Objective To report the first case of adult late-onset propionic acidemia (PA) caused by PCCB gene mutation in China, and summary the clinical and molecular pathological characteristics of patients with late-onset propionic acidemia. **Methods and Results** The clinical manifestations of an eighteen-year-old male patient were acute onset of symmetrical injury at bilateral basal ganglia which induced metabolic encephalopathy with involuntary movement. Tandem mass spectrometry (MS/MS) test results of dried blood spots indicated that propionyl carnitine (C3) was 10.37 μmol/L, and the ratio of propionyl carnitine to acetyl carnitine (C3/C2) was 0.69. Gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC/MS) test results indicated urine 3-hydroxypropionic acid was 18 μmol/L, methyl citrate level was 12.70 μmol/L. The gene results detected a homozygous pathogenic mutation (exon 10: c.1087T>C, p.Ser363Pro) in the PCCB gene. His parents had a heterozygous mutation in PCCB gene exon 10 c.1087T>C (p.Ser363Pro), which was consistent with the phenomenon of family co-segregation, and the mutation site was consistent with a suspected pathogenic variant. The final molecular pathological diagnosis was late-onset propionic acidemia. Following the protein restriction diet, high-dose L-carnitine injection, and ammonia-lowering treatment, the dried blood spots propionic acid level and the urine 3-hydroxypropionic acid level decreased significantly. **Conclusions** The mutation exon c.1087T>C (p.Ser363Pro) is a rare and highly suspected

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pathogenic mutation of *PCCB* gene. MS/MS and GC/MS detection combined with whole exome sequencing technology is very important in the diagnosis of late-onset propionic acidemia.

【Key words】 Propionic acidemia; Genes; Mutation; Mass spectrometry; Pathology, molecular

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丙酸血症(PA)是一种常染色体隐性遗传性有机酸血症,系丙酰辅酶A羧化酶(PCC)活性缺陷导致体内丙酸及其代谢产物前体异常蓄积引起的遗传代谢性疾病。PCC是由 α 和 β 亚单位组成的 $\alpha_6\beta_6$ 十二聚体^[1],编码基因分别为*PCCA*和*PCCB*^[2]。1961年,Childs等^[3-4]发现一种新的氨基酸——甘氨酸代谢障碍,从而开启丙酸血症的研究;至1969年,Hsia等^[5]发现,酮症性高血糖患者存在丙酸羧化障碍;1970年,Gompertz等^[6]在丙酸血症患者肝细胞中发现PCC缺陷;1971年,Hsia等^[7]再次在酮症性高血糖患者纤维母细胞中发现PCC缺陷;1974年,Brandt等^[8]报告低蛋白饮食治疗丙酸血症有效。丙酸血症临床表现复杂,分为早发型(发病<1岁)和晚发型,早发型患者多为重症且存在智力发育迟滞,通常于婴幼儿期死亡;晚发型患者症状较轻微,生存期较长^[9]。多数丙酸血症患者出生后或婴幼儿期即出现相应临床症状,进而被诊断;而成年发病的丙酸血症国内较为罕见,国外则多以心肌病、胃肠道疾病、肾病等为首发症状,神经系统症状中癫痫发作最为常见^[10]。本文报道1例双侧基底节区对称受累、以代谢性脑病伴锥体外系症状为主要表现的成人晚发型丙酸血症患者,结合其临床表现和基因检测结果并复习相关文献,以期提高临床医师对疾病的诊断与治疗水平。

病例资料

患者 男性,18岁,主因恶心、呕吐4天,右侧肢体无力、不自主活动1天,于2020年11月10日入院。患者入院前4天饮酒(白酒150 g)后出现反复恶心、呕吐,症状呈进行性加重,1天前出现右侧肢体无力伴不自主舞蹈样动作,无明显意识障碍、记忆和认知功能障碍、肢体抽搐、大小便失禁。入院第2天出现睡眠增多,反应变差,回答欠切题,合并轻度脑病表现。既往史、个人史及家族史无特殊,反复询问病史排除食物和毒物中毒的可能。

入院后体格检查 生命体征平稳,内科系统查体未见明显异常。神经系统查体:嗜睡,烦躁,表情淡漠,语言欠流利,脑神经检查无明显异常;四肢肌力5级、肌张力降低,右侧肢体远端偶见舞蹈样不规则动作,右侧指鼻试验和跟-膝-胫试验可,Romberg征不合作,深浅感觉检查不合作,双侧肱二头肌反射、肱三头肌反射、桡骨膜反射、膝腱反射和跟腱反射对称性降低,病理反射未引出,脑膜刺激征阴性。

辅助检查 实验室检查:血常规红细胞计数为 $3.33 \times 10^{12}/L$ [(4.30~5.80) $\times 10^{12}/L$],血红蛋白为129 g/L(130~175 g/L),红细胞平均血红蛋白(MCH)38.90 pg(27~34 pg),红细胞平均血红蛋白浓度(MCHC)为355 g/L(316~354 g/L),提示存在轻度巨幼红细胞贫血;肝功能试验总胆红素水平为38.70 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{L}$ ($\leq 26 \mu\text{mol}/\text{L}$),直接胆红素8.60 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{L}$ (0~6.80 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{L}$),间接胆红素30.10 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{L}$ (1.70~10.20 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{L}$),提示轻度肝功能损害;血清同型半胱氨酸(Hcy)347 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{L}$ ($\leq 15 \mu\text{mol}/\text{L}$),血清维生素B₁₂113.06 pmol/L(154.39~569.00 pmol/L),叶酸1.09 nmol/L(2.87~19.78 nmol/L),提示存在轻度维生素B₁₂和叶酸缺乏;血清氨161 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{L}$ (5.88~35.30 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{L}$),提示高氨血症;其余血液生化、心肌酶谱、血清脂质、血糖、甲状腺功能、风湿免疫指标、自身抗体、肿瘤标志物筛查均于正常值范围。腰椎穿刺脑脊液常规、生化于正常值范围,病原学检测阴性,排除中枢神经系统感染性疾病。进一步完善干血斑串联质谱(MS/MS)和尿液气相色谱-质谱(GC/MS)有机酸测定。影像学检查:头部CT显示,双侧基底节区低密度影(图1)。MRI显示,双侧基底节区长T₁、长T₂信号影,其内混杂短T₁、短T₂信号;DWI弥散受限信号影(图2)。

基因检测及分子病理学检测 采集患者及其父母外周静脉血各3 ml,送检苏州赛福医学检验有限公司,行全外显子组测序(WES)和Sanger测序,结果显示,患者存在第3染色体*PCCB*基因外显子10

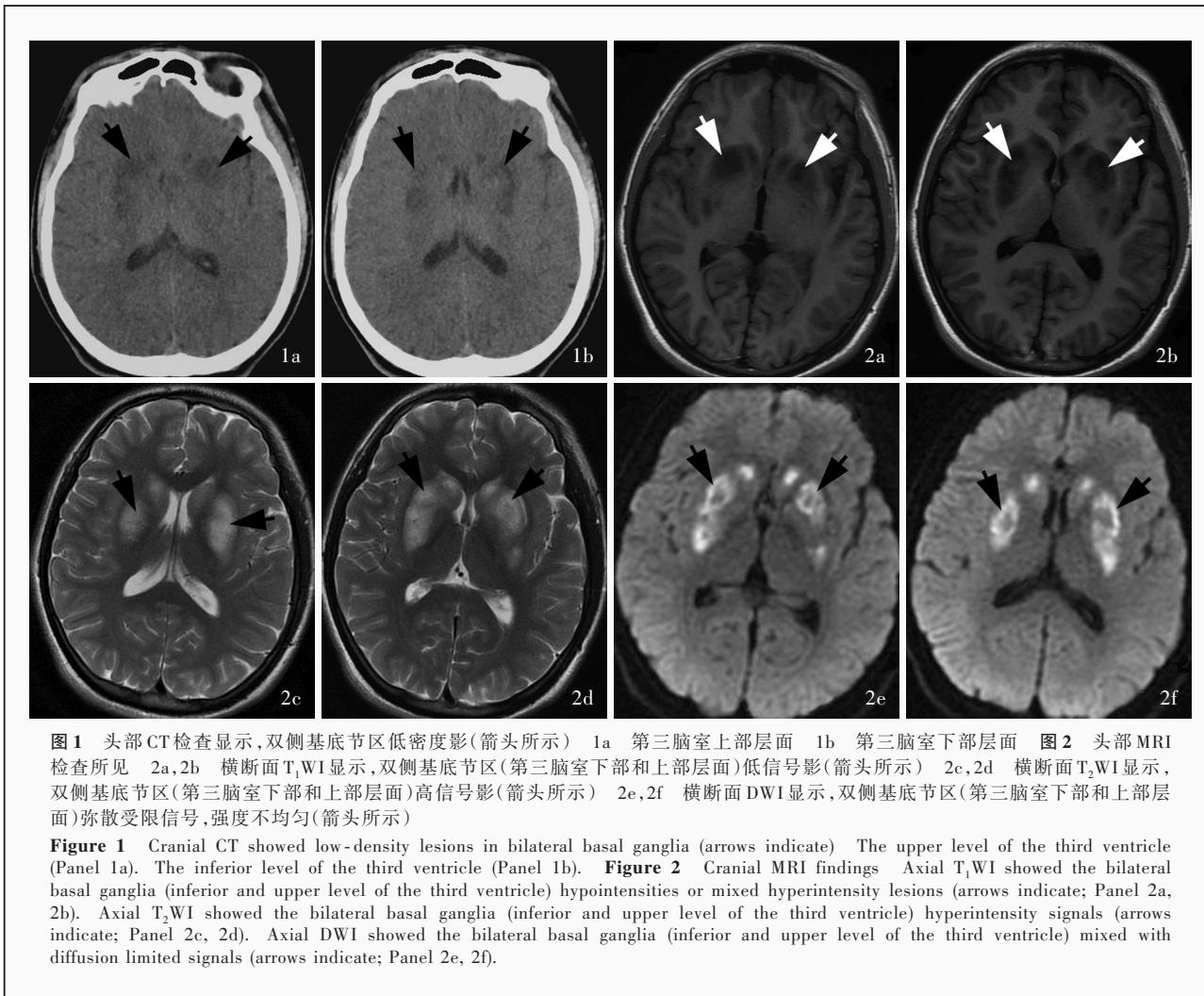


图1 头部CT检查显示,双侧基底节区低密度影(箭头所示) 1a 第三脑室上部层面 1b 第三脑室下部层面 **图2** 头部MRI检查所见 2a,2b 横断面T₁WI显示,双侧基底节区(第三脑室下部和上部层面)低信号影(箭头所示) 2c,2d 横断面T₂WI显示,双侧基底节区(第三脑室下部和上部层面)高信号影(箭头所示) 2e,2f 横断面DWI显示,双侧基底节区(第三脑室下部和上部层面)弥散受限信号,强度不均匀(箭头所示)

Figure 1 Cranial CT showed low-density lesions in bilateral basal ganglia (arrows indicate). The upper level of the third ventricle (Panel 1a). The inferior level of the third ventricle (Panel 1b). **Figure 2** Cranial MRI findings. Axial T₁WI showed the bilateral basal ganglia (inferior and upper level of the third ventricle) hypointensities or mixed hyperintensity lesions (arrows indicate; Panel 2a, 2b). Axial T₂WI showed the bilateral basal ganglia (inferior and upper level of the third ventricle) hyperintensity signals (arrows indicate; Panel 2c, 2d). Axial DWI showed the bilateral basal ganglia (inferior and upper level of the third ventricle) mixed with diffusion limited signals (arrows indicate; Panel 2e, 2f).

c.1087T>C(p.Ser363Pro)纯合突变(突变位点基因编号:NM_000532.5),其父母均存在PCCB基因外显子10 c.1087T>C(p.Ser363Pro)杂合突变(图3),但无相关临床症状,符合家系共分离现象,证实患者的突变为常染色体隐性遗传性纯合突变。参照美国医学遗传学和基因组学会(ACMG)制定的《遗传变异分类标准与指南》^[11],该变异符合疑似致病性变异。最终分子病理诊断为晚发型丙酸血症。进一步追问家族史,家族中无类似疾病患者,其父母否认近亲婚配且无临床症状。

治疗与随访 患者入院后即限制蛋白饮食,予左卡尼汀1000 mg/d静脉注射连续14天、盐酸精氨酸15 g/d静脉滴注连续5天降氨治疗,临床症状明显改善。患者共住院20天,出院时意识清楚,认知功能恢复正常,肢体不自主动作消失。出院后随访1~3个月,于2021年1月5日复查干血斑MS/MS和尿液GS/MS,丙酸和尿液3-羟基丙酸水平显著下降

(表1)。目前仍在随访中。

讨 论

丙酸血症是常染色体隐性遗传性代谢性疾病,系线粒体内PCC活性缺乏所致,引起丙酰辅酶A(异亮氨酸、蛋氨酸、苏氨酸、缬氨酸、奇数链脂肪酸和胆固醇侧链分解代谢所产生)代谢减少,堆积于体内,进而激活旁路代谢途径,生成大量丙酸(亦有一部分由细菌在肠道内分解丙酮酸产生)、3-羟基丙酸和甲基枸橼酸等中间代谢产物,产生严重的毒性作用^[12]。丙酸血症患儿临床表现多样,出生后或婴幼儿期即出现相应临床症状,新生儿期表现为呕吐、喂养困难、意识障碍、昏迷和抽搐,可累及神经系统、心脏、肾脏和免疫系统等;晚发型主要表现为发育迟缓、智力障碍、癫痫发作、基底节区病变、胰腺炎和心肌病等,其他少见并发症还包括视神经萎缩、听力丧失、卵巢功能障碍和慢性肾功能衰竭。晚发

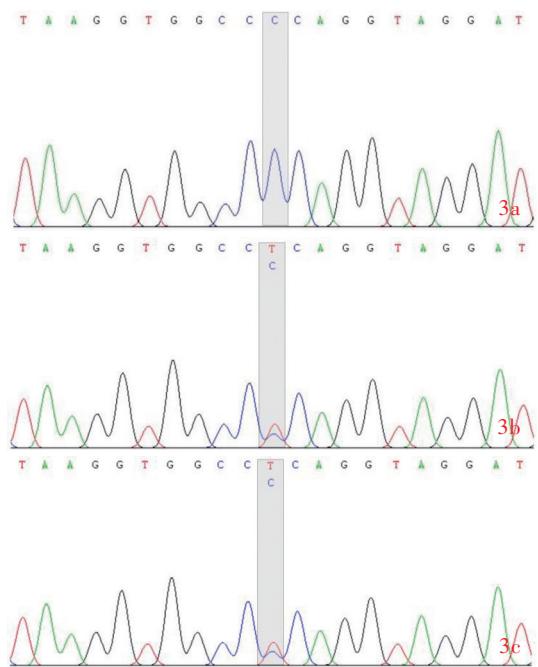


图3 Sanger测序所见 3a 患者存在PCCB基因外显子10 c.1087T>C(p.Ser363Pro)纯合突变(灰色柱形所示) 3b 患者之父存在PCCB基因外显子10 c.1087T>C(p.Ser363Pro)杂合突变(灰色柱形所示) 3c 患者之母存在PCCB基因外显子10 c.1087T>C(p.Ser363Pro)杂合突变(灰色柱形所示)

Figure 3 Sanger sequence findings of *PCCB* gene. The patient's c.1087T > C (p.Ser363Pro) locus was a homozygous mutation (gray pillar indicates, Panel 3a). The patient's father (Panel 3b) and mother (Panel 3c) c.1087T > C (p.Ser363Pro) locus were a heterozygous mutation (gray pillars indicate).

型患者可无临床症状、也可在蛋白质分解代谢压力下出现代谢危象,或者发病更隐匿,并发多器官功能障碍,如呕吐、蛋白质不耐受、发育不良、肌张力下降、运动障碍伴锥体外系症状(舞蹈病、手足徐动症)或心肌病^[13-14]。丙酸血症患者的常见临床表现发生率^[15]参见表2。本文患者表现为急性代谢危象导致的代谢性脑病伴运动障碍,为晚发型的典型临床表现,且发病前有饮酒史,可能是出现代谢危象的诱因。

实验室检查多表现为代谢性酸中毒,血清氨和乳酸升高,血常规白细胞计数、红细胞计数和血小板计数减少,其中高氨血症对神经系统的影响最大,可引起代谢危象;丙酸血症则通过降低N-乙酰谷氨酸合成酶活性,造成尿素循环障碍,引起高氨血症^[16],也可能谷氨酸(Glu)/谷氨酰胺(Gln)形成缺陷是高氨血症的作用机制^[17]。因此,当临床疑诊丙酸血症时,应完善血清氨、动脉血气分析、血常

规、氨基酸测定、酰基肉碱(甲基丙二酸、C3和游离肉碱)以及尿酮、尿液的有机酸测定。临床主要依靠干血斑(MS/MS法)和尿液(GC/MS法)有机酸检测进行初筛,欧洲甲基丙二酸血症(MMA)与丙酸血症诊治指南^[15]中丙酸血症的临床诊断标准为:(1)尿液GC/MS法提示3-羟基丙酸和甲基枸橼酸显著升高。(2)干血斑氨基酸肉碱MS/MS法显示C3>4 μmol/L,C3/C2比值>0.25。本文患者的实验室检查结果符合典型丙酸血症表现,诊断明确。应注意与甲基丙二酸血症相鉴别,二者为丙酸代谢障碍的两种疾病,MS/MS法均提示C3水平升高,但丙酸血症患者尿液GC/MS法可检出特异性3-羟基丙酸,而甲基丙二酸血症患者可检出特异性甲基丙二酸,可资鉴别^[15]。此外,异常升高的血清同型半胱氨酸可提示丙酸代谢通路疾病的可能,对遗传性丙酸血症和甲基丙二酸血症具有重要诊断指向性^[15]。

丙酸血症头部MRI表现为髓鞘形成延迟、脑萎缩伴脑室系统和蛛网膜下腔扩大,以及不同程度的基底节区改变^[18-20]。MRS显示,基底节区N-乙酰天冬氨酸(NAA)和肌醇峰值降低,Gln或者Glu峰值升高^[18],乳酸(Lac)峰值升高^[21]。本文患者呈急性发病,临床表现为急性代谢性脑病,影像学提示双侧基底节区对称性病变,国外仅数例类似报道^[22-25],国内表现为双侧基底节区对称性病变的丙酸血症十分罕见,成年期发病者尚未见诸报道。基底节区病变考虑与灌注异常和有毒代谢产物积累有关^[23-25]。本文患者头部CT平扫可见双侧基底节区低密度病灶;MRI可见双侧基底节区长T₁、长T₂信号病灶,其内混杂短T₁、短T₂信号,DWI显示双侧基底节区混杂弥散受限信号,提示存在出血性坏死。但是该例患者未行MRS,无法对病变的病理生化表现进一步分析。由于典型的抗富亮氨酸胶质瘤失活基因1(LGI1)受体脑炎亦可表现为对称性基底节区病变,故我们进一步完善血清和脑脊液自身免疫性脑炎抗体检测,均无阳性发现。

既往有文献报道,丙酸血症的典型病理表现为大脑和小脑白质海绵样变性^[22,26],缺血缺氧性损伤致神经元缺失和神经胶质增生;基底节区病变在晚发型丙酸血症中更为常见,病理表现为基底节坏死和坏死后出血,出血仅限于基底节灰质,不遵循血管分布,脑实质内可见血管内皮细胞肿胀^[25]。尽管上述病理改变不具特异性,但基底节对称性出血性坏死的病理学特征具有高度指向性,提示组织病理学

表1 丙酸血症患者入院时和随访时血液和尿液有机酸检测结果

Table 1. MS/MS and GC/MS test results of propionic acidemia patient during initial screening and follow-up after treatment

检测时间	MS/MS法			GC/MS法	
	C3 (μmol/L)	C3/C2 比值	MET (μmol/L)	3-羟基丙酸 (mg/g肌酐)	甲基枸橼酸 (mg/g肌酐)
入院时(2020年11月11日)	10.37	0.69	25.72	18.00	12.70
随访时(2021年1月5日)	17.83	0.44	11.55	2.50	2.60

正常参考值:C3为0.30~5.00 μmol/L,C3/C2比值为0.02~0.20,MET为8~50 μmol/L,3-羟基丙酸为0~4 mg/g肌酐,甲基枸橼酸为0~0.80 mg/g肌酐。MS/MS,tandem mass spectrometry,串联质谱;GC/MS,gas chromatography-mass spectrometry,气相色谱-质谱;C3,propionyl carnitine,丙酰肉碱;C2,acetyl carnitine,乙酰肉碱;MET,methionine,甲硫氨酸

表3 文献报道的亚洲人群丙酸血症常见基因突变类型

Table 3. Common gene mutation types of propionic acidemia in Asians

文献来源	种族	突变基因	突变位点	突变氨基酸	突变类型	文献来源	种族	突变基因	突变位点	突变氨基酸	突变类型
Hu等 ^[30]	汉族	PCCA	717-2A>G	-	经典剪接	Ohura等 ^[36]	日本	PCCB	493C>T	Arg-Trp	错义突变
Ohura等 ^[31]	日本	PCCA	1196G>A	Arg-Gln	错义突变	Yang等 ^[28]	日本	PCCB	966+1G>T	-	经典剪接
Desviat等 ^[32]	中亚	PCCA	1209+3A>G	-	经典剪接	Tahara等 ^[37]	日本	PCCB	1228C>T	Arg-Trp	错义突变
Gupta等 ^[33]	印度	PCCA	1426C>T	Arg-Term	无义突变	Lee等 ^[38]	朝鲜	PCCB	1229G>A	Arg-Gln	错义突变
Ohura等 ^[31]	日本	PCCA	1540+1G>A	-	经典剪接	Kim等 ^[27]	朝鲜	PCCB	1300-8T>A	-	剪接突变
Yang等 ^[28]	日本	PCCA	1643+1G>A	-	经典剪接	Yorifuji等 ^[39]	日本	PCCB	1304A>G	Tyr-Cys	错义突变
Wang等 ^[34]	汉族	PCCA	1746G>C	Ser-Ser	经典剪接	Ohura等 ^[36]	日本	PCCB	1495C>T	Arg-Term	无义突变
Wang等 ^[34]	汉族	PCCA	1845+1G>A	-	经典剪接	Yang等 ^[35]	汉族	PCCB	c.359_360del AT	p.Y120Cfs*40	移码突变
Yang等 ^[35]	汉族	PCCA	c.1288C>T (p.R430X)	截短蛋白	无义突变	Yang等 ^[35]	汉族	PCCB	c.1398+1G>A	外显子13-14跳变	剪接突变
Desviat等 ^[32]	中亚	PCCB	183+2T>C	-	经典剪接						

-,no change in encoded amino acids,编码的氨基酸无改变;Arg,arginine,精氨酸;Gln,glutamine,谷氨酰胺;Term,termination,终止密码子;Ser,serine,丝氨酸;Trp,tryptophane,色氨酸;Tyr,tyrosine,酪氨酸;Cys,cysteine,半胱氨酸

检查有助于神经系统遗传性疾病发病机制的阐明,对疾病的诊断与治疗具有重要意义。本文患者未行病理学检查,但其影像学提示双侧基底节区对称性出血性坏死(图1,2),符合丙酸血症的改变。

丙酸代谢的关键酶为PCC,是PCCA和PCCB亚基组成的 α_{β} 十二聚体,系编码PCCA和PCCB亚基的基因突变所致,均可引起丙酸血症。目前已发现81种PCCA基因变异和86种PCCB基因变异,且丙酸血症发病率和基因突变存在明显的种族和地区差异^[27-29]。鉴于此,我们检索美国国立医学图书馆生物医学文献数据库(PubMed)中亚洲人群常见的丙酸血症基因突变类型,参见表3^[27-28,30-39]。本文患者分子病理解示存在PCCB基因外显子10

表2 文献报道的丙酸血症患者常见临床表现及本文病例临床表现

Table 2. The common clinical manifestations of propionic acidemia in literature and the manifestations of this case

临床症状与体征	文献报道发生率 ^[15]	本文病例
发育迟滞	59%~100%	-
脑病	21%~30%	+
肌张力降低	56%~100%	+
癫痫发作	25%~53%	-
运动障碍	40%	+
脑卒中样发作和基底节病变	>10例	+
视神经萎缩	>10例	-
精神症状	罕见	-
心肌病	9%~23%	-

+,positive,阳性;-,-,negative,阴性;-,-,not done,未检测

c.1087T>C纯合突变,该突变是由陈占玲等^[40]于2015年新发现的致病性变异,该位点突变导致氨基酸由丝氨酸突变为脯氨酸(p.Ser363Pro),并经Sanger测序家系验证,该纯合突变遗传自其父母[均存在PCCB基因外显子10 c.1087T>C(p.Ser363Pro)杂合突变],符合家系共分离现象,进一步支持该突变位点为致病性突变。目前,该突变位点已收录于ClinVar数据库(<http://www.clinicalgenome.org/data-sharing/clinvar/>),定义为“疑似致病性变异”。由于报道的家系较少,尚待进一步在其他家系中验证。

目前尚缺乏特异性治疗方法,急性期的代谢危象主要采取降氨、控制感染、纠正酸碱平衡等对症治疗;长期治疗以限制天然蛋白质(包括缬氨酸、异

亮氨酸、苏氨酸和甲硫氨酸)的摄入为主,同时辅以左卡尼汀、甲硝唑、氨甲酰谷氨酸等药物治疗,必要时行肝脏移植术^[15,41]。本文患者经限制蛋白饮食、大剂量左卡尼汀、降氨等治疗后症状明显改善,复查有机酸代谢显示干血斑丙酸和尿液3-羟基丙酸水平显著下降。

综上所述,国内关于晚发型丙酸血症的报道较少,本文患者为国内首例PCCB基因突变致晚发型丙酸血症病例。提示我们在临床实践中,对于成年期发病的代谢性脑病,应将丙酸血症作为鉴别诊断之一;对于异常升高的血清同型半胱氨酸,考虑甲基丙二酸血症的同时亦应排除丙酸血症的可能。干血斑(MS/MS法)和尿液(GC/MS法)有机酸检测联合全外显子组测序等分子病理学检查在晚发型丙酸血症的诊断中具有重要价值。丙酸血症为临床罕见的遗传代谢性疾病且预后不良,因此,早期基因检测以明确诊断有助于对其家系做出遗传咨询并指导优生优育,避免致病基因在家系中的传递。

利益冲突 无

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【点评】丙酸血症是临床罕见的常染色体隐性遗传性代谢性疾病,临床表现复杂多样,通常于出生后或婴幼儿期发病,成年期发病者极为罕见,临床极易漏诊和误诊。该文报道国内首例PCCB基因突变致成年期发病的晚发型丙酸血症病例,虽然最终明确诊断依靠基因检测,但该例患者基底节区对称性病变和显著升高的血清同型半胱氨酸水平为后续干血斑和尿液有机酸测定及基因检测等检查手段的选择提供了重要线索,对青年医师临床诊断思维的培养亦大有助益。此外,虽然该例患者的父母否认近亲婚配,但仍提醒临床医师在临床实践中怀疑相关遗传代谢性疾病时应重视家系遗传信息的排查,以期为疾病诊断提供更多有价值的线索。该文为成人遗传代谢性脑病的诊断扩充了疾病谱。

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