

儿童脑海绵状血管瘤临床特点及发病机制研究进展

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【摘要】 脑海绵状血管瘤是中枢神经系统常见的血管畸形病变,儿童患者可出现癫痫发作、自发性脑出血和局灶性神经功能缺损等症状,病变呈单发或多发,多为偶然发现。MRI对脑海绵状血管瘤具有较高的辨识度,是其首选影像学检查手段。但该病的发病机制目前尚未阐明,且治疗方法仍缺乏总结。本文对儿童脑海绵状血管瘤的临床表现、影像学特征、相关发病机制以及治疗方式的选择进行综述,以加深对疾病的认识,指导个体化治疗。

【关键词】 血管瘤,海绵状,中枢神经系统; 脑出血; 癫痫; 儿童; 综述

Progress on clinical characteristics and pathogenesis of cerebral cavernous malformation in children

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【Abstract】 Cerebral cavernous malformation is the second most common vascular malformation of the central nervous system. The main clinical manifestations in children include epileptic seizure, spontaneous cerebral hemorrhage, and focal neurological deficits. The lesions are mostly single or multiple, most of which were detected incidentally. MRI has a high discrimination of cerebral cavernous malformation and is the imaging modality of choice for it. However, the pathogenesis has not been elucidated and the treatment methods still lack summary. This paper reviews the clinical characteristics and pathogenesis of cerebral cavernous malformation in children, involved clinical characteristics, imaging features, potential pathogenesis and treatment methods, to deepen the understanding of cerebral cavernous malformation for further individual treatment.

【Key words】 Hemangioma, cavernous, central nervous system; Cerebral hemorrhage; Epilepsy; Child; Review

Conflicts of interest: none declared

脑海绵状血管瘤(CCM)亦称脑海绵状血管畸形,是一类由异常增粗的毛细血管腔组成的无正常引流的血管畸形的统称^[1],为毛细血管水平的隐匿性血管畸形,包括家族性和散发性两种类型,好发于30~40岁成人,儿童患者约占35%^[2-3]。相比于成年患者,目前针对儿童脑海绵状血管瘤的相关研究较少,本文拟对儿童(18岁以下)脑海绵状血管瘤的流行病学特点、临床表现、影像学特征、治疗方式以

及相关发病机制进行概述,以提高对该病的认识,为疾病诊断与治疗提供指导。

一、流行病学特点

根据流行病学调查,脑海绵状血管瘤发病率约为0.5%,是仅次于脑动静脉畸形(CAVM)的临床常见中枢神经系统血管畸形^[4-5],儿童总体患病率约为0.6%,可随年龄增长逐渐增加,婴儿患病率最低,仅为0.2%^[3,6]。与其他血管畸形不同,脑海绵状血管瘤由薄壁血管窦样结构组成,血管窦壁缺乏肌层和弹力纤维,主要由胶原纤维组成,一般无粗大供血动脉和引流静脉^[7]。若异常血管直接与脑实质相邻,易反复发生脑微出血(CMBs),导致炎症反应、包

doi: 10.3969/j.issn.1672-6731.2023.05.003

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膜周围胶质增生和含铁血黄素沉积^[8]。

儿童海绵状血管瘤通常以散发性、孤立性病灶出现,亦有20%患儿可为多发^[9],以家族性海绵状血管瘤(fCCM)较为常见,占多发性海绵状血管瘤的1/3~1/2,呈常染色体不完全性显性遗传。基因学研究已经证实,家族性海绵状血管瘤与CCM1(KRIT1)、CCM2(MGC4607)和CCM3(PDCD10)基因变异有关^[10-11],其中CCM3基因变异致海绵状血管瘤占16%~22%,该类型海绵状血管瘤患儿随着年龄增长新发病灶数目亦有所增加,存在较高的颅内出血风险^[12]。

二、临床表现

海绵状血管瘤患儿临床表现和病程存在一定差异,高达50%的患儿为无症状或偶然发现^[13-14],一般确诊时平均年龄为10岁^[15];有临床症状的患儿通常表现为癫痫发作(50%)^[16]、自发性脑出血(25%)、局灶性神经功能缺损(25%)^[17-18]。(1)癫痫发作:对于毗邻或累及大脑皮质的病灶,一般被认为是潜在的致痫灶,即使影像学检查未发现明显的脑出血征象,患儿仍可出现癫痫发作^[2]。对于既往存在癫痫发作史的患儿,首次发作后5年内癫痫风险高达94%,远高于脑动静脉畸形患儿的58%^[19]。(2)自发性脑出血:海绵状血管瘤和其他血管畸形均可表现为自发性脑出血,应注意鉴别。通常海绵状血管瘤引起的脑出血量较少且呈局灶性,与其他颅内血管畸形相比,神经功能损害程度较轻^[20]。有研究显示,病灶位于脑干、有反复性脑出血病史、存在明显发育性静脉异常(DVA)等为儿童海绵状血管瘤发生脑出血的重要危险因素^[15],其中,病灶位于脑干的海绵状血管瘤患儿发生脑出血与不良预后直接相关^[21];相比于成人患者,儿童海绵状血管瘤患者总体脑出血概率更高(3.3%对2.5%)^[2],且首次脑出血的年龄越小,随着年龄增长和病程迁延,再次发生脑出血的风险可进一步增加;而发育性静脉异常则被视为放射状“水母头”血管的集合,这种静脉异常可因血管壁的先天薄弱及静脉压力的增加而导致反复局灶性出血^[22]。(3)局灶性神经功能缺损:海绵状血管瘤患儿永久性神经功能障碍发生率约为29%^[21],其症状严重程度主要取决于病灶部位,据文献报道,病灶位于脑干、丘脑或基底节者占45%,主要表现为肢体偏瘫或感觉障碍,位于幕上或小脑者占15%^[21,23],临床可表现为失语或共济失调。

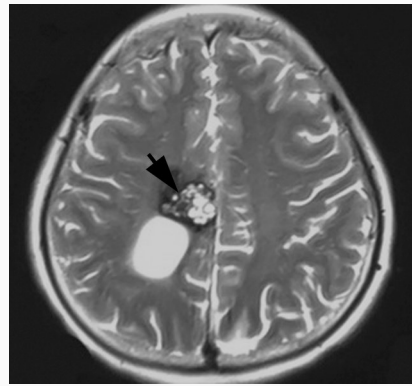


图1 男性患儿,8岁,经MRI确诊为海绵状血管瘤。横断面T₂WI显示右侧额叶高低混杂信号影,病灶呈“爆米花征”(箭头所示)

Figure 1 A 8-year-old boy was diagnosed with CCM by MRI, axial T₂WI showed hyperintensity and hypointensity in the right frontal lobe, and "popcorn sign" (arrow indicates).

三、影像学特征

CT对海绵状血管瘤继发的急性脑出血的检测敏感性较高,主要表现为高密度病灶或点片状钙化灶;但出血量较少者,CT敏感性和特异性则明显降低。MRI对海绵状血管瘤具有较高的辨识度,是疑似海绵状血管瘤的首选影像学检查手段^[6]。其特征性MRI征象包括病灶呈小叶状、“爆米花征”(图1)、“桑椹果征”,是由异常血管渗出的血红蛋白沉积在病灶内及病灶周围的分解产物所致,在疾病不同时期行头部MRI检查,由于血红蛋白产物处于不同分解期,T₁WI和T₂WI可呈混杂信号^[24],且T₂WI尚可见病灶周围的环形低信号;而新鲜出血灶则表现为T₁WI高信号^[24-25]。一般情况下,MRI增强扫描病灶边缘呈不规则强化的典型表现较为少见,唯有新鲜脑出血造成的短暂性血脑屏障破坏患者方可见明显的边缘不规则强化征象,但此征象对海绵状血管瘤的诊断并不具有特异性,也可见于瘤卒中、发育性静脉异常等疾病。因此,需要利用对海绵状血管瘤更敏感的磁敏感加权成像(SWI)以缩小鉴别诊断范围并排除肿瘤^[26-27]。SWI序列是基于血红蛋白分解过程中沉积的含铁血黄素内铁离子引起局部磁场的非均匀性,使典型的低信号边缘变得更加明显,进而使病变充分显现且边界清晰,有助于发现微小和多发病变,提高病变检出率,尤其适用于家族性海绵状血管瘤或多发性海绵状血管瘤。SWI序列对于海绵状血管瘤的鉴别诊断也颇具价值,海绵状血管瘤在SWI序列上可见完

整的含铁血黄素环,而瘤卒中则呈不完整的含铁血黄素环^[28-29],肿瘤出血位置以肿瘤中心位置周围多见^[30]。目前T₂梯度回波序列(GRE)、SWI序列已成为海绵状血管瘤诊断与鉴别诊断的必备序列。

四、发病机制

海绵状血管瘤的发病机制较为复杂,目前尚未完全阐明,但大量遗传学研究显示,约80%的海绵状血管瘤呈孤立性、散发性,余20%表现为多发并遵循常染色体显性遗传模式^[31],但散发性与家族性患儿的发病机制存在差异^[4]。(1)家族性海绵状血管瘤:目前广泛认可的发病机制是“二次打击”假说^[31],即患儿生殖细胞携带的CCM基因杂合变异,此为“第一次打击”;环境暴露引起的体细胞另一个CCM等位基因功能缺失导致CCM基因功能完全丧失,为“第二次打击”;随着时间延长,可造成血管内皮损伤,最终导致血管内皮细胞双等位基因*Krit1*、*Ccm2*或*Pdcd10*缺失^[32],CCM基因缺失的血管内皮细胞开始表达间充质标志物,并进行克隆扩增以形成海绵状血管瘤^[33]。该假说已被海绵状血管瘤小鼠模型所证实^[34],CCM基因敲除小鼠在胚胎发生过程中可因心脏和大血管形成障碍而死亡,而仅携带一个CCM等位基因突变的模型小鼠则极少发生海绵状血管瘤^[35]。(2)散发性海绵状血管瘤:目前认为散发性病例可能与两种假说有关,即“二次打击”和电离辐射假说。散发性海绵状血管瘤的发病并不具备生殖细胞先天CCM基因变异的条件,但对散发性海绵状血管瘤CCM基因体细胞变异的研究发现,部分海绵状血管瘤的产生同样适用于CCM基因的“二次打击”假说,即CCM基因编码的下游蛋白如KRIT1、MGC4607、PDCD10蛋白之间相互作用,并与其他细胞信号转导通路相互作用,继而协助细胞通信和促进血管生成,最终形成海绵状血管瘤^[36-37];另外,对CCM基因变异的体细胞的研究也发现,因血管内皮细胞连接通透性增加^[38]所导致的海绵状血管瘤,其组织病理学表现为成熟的血管壁结构并缺乏成熟的血脑屏障,而这可能即是部分海绵状血管瘤患儿发生反复性局灶性出血的原因。电离辐射假说认为,电离辐射是导致基因组不稳定DNA损伤的潜在原因^[39],可以诱导血管内皮细胞基因变异,从而诱散发散性海绵状血管瘤;散发者通常可出现多个病灶,而非电离辐射诱发的散发性海绵状血管瘤绝大多数呈孤立性病灶,二者形成鲜明对比^[40]。但上述理论仅

为假说,具体机制仍不明确,尚待进一步研究证实。

五、治疗方式

目前针对儿童海绵状血管瘤的治疗方法主要为保守治疗和外科干预治疗,鉴于外科手术风险超过疾病自然史过程中的脑出血发生风险,故对于偶然发现的海绵状血管瘤一般提倡随访观察,每年通过头部MRI平扫进行随访,再根据病变变化决定是否需要进一步外科干预或继续随访^[41]。

外科干预方法包括显微外科手术和立体定向放射外科(SRS)治疗,根据病灶位置、大小、症状严重程度和脑出血病史进行个体化风险分层^[9,42],制定可行性手术方案。(1)显微外科手术:适用于有症状和(或)影像学检查显示大面积脑出血征象,以及药物治疗无效的癫痫发作患儿^[43]。对于符合手术适应证但病灶位于基底节或脑干等位置较深的患儿,手术实施难度较大且存在一定的风险,术前应使患儿家属对手术存在的风险知情同意。另外,对于血管瘤较大(≥2厘米)且有明显肿瘤压迫效应和症状严重,或呈外生性肿瘤的患儿,即使仅发生过一次脑出血事件,也应考虑手术切除。值得注意的是,手术过程中若发现发育性异常静脉应予以保留,以防止术后继发静脉性脑梗死^[44-45]。目前认为,影响显微外科手术疗效的因素可能与显微外科手术之前存在神经功能障碍、两次及以上脑出血事件,以及年龄小于12岁等因素有关,可以作为术后神经功能预后不良的预测因素;而不完全切除是术后发生再出血的独立预测因素^[46]。(2)立体定向放射外科治疗:伽马刀是立体定向放射外科的主要治疗手段,可提供精确的放射剂量,同时保护周围组织。然而,由于立体定向放射外科治疗本身即存在诱发海绵状血管瘤的风险,因此在选择适应证时须注意与反复脑出血不良事件的发生风险相平衡,以患儿获益最大为原则^[47]。研究表明,经立体定向放射外科治疗后孤立性海绵状血管瘤患儿的再出血风险显著降低^[48],而且对于症状性脑干海绵状血管瘤和(或)侵袭性病变等无法接受手术治疗的患儿,低剂量放射治疗(边缘剂量为12~14 Gy)不失为一种较好的替代性选择方案^[48-49]。

综上所述,儿童海绵状血管瘤作为临床常见的血管畸形病变,可引起自发性脑出血或癫痫发作等;MRI对其具有较高的辨识度;治疗方法需根据病灶位置和临床特点采取个体化治疗方案。其发病机制目前仍不明确,尚待进一步研究,为未来的药

物及基因治疗提供可能的作用靶点。

利益冲突 无

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(收稿日期:2023-03-30)

(本文编辑:袁云)

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《中国现代神经疾病杂志》编辑部关于稿件统计分析方法的要求

《中国现代神经疾病杂志》编辑部对来稿中的统计分析方法一律要求明确研究设计方法,以及详细描述资料性质和结果,具体要求如下:

1. 研究设计方法 要求交代研究设计的名称和主要方法。如调查设计应写明是前瞻性、回顾性还是横断面调查研究;实验设计应写明具体设计类型,如自身配对设计、成组设计、交叉设计、析因设计或正交叉设计等;临床试验设计应写明属于第几期临床试验,采用何种盲法措施等。应围绕“重复、随机、对照、均衡”四项基本原则进行概要说明,尤其要说明如何控制重要的非试验因素的干扰和影响。

2. 资料及结果的表达与描述 采用均数±标准差($\bar{x} \pm s$)表示近似服从正态分布的计量资料,采用中位数和四分位数间距 $[M(P_{25}, P_{75})]$ 表示呈偏态分布的计量资料;采用相对数构成比(%)或率(%)表示计数资料,用相对数构成比时分母不能小于20。应写明所用统计分析方法的具体名称、统计量具体值,应尽可能给出确切的P值;当涉及总体参数时,在给出显著性检验结果的同时,给出95%CI。