

·专题综述·

宏基因组第二代测序技术在重症中枢神经系统感染中的应用

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【摘要】 重症中枢神经系统感染病死率较高,早期识别病原体并采取针对性措施是降低病死率的关键。传统病原学检测技术因自身技术缺陷难以满足临床需要,宏基因组第二代测序技术(mNGS)因快速、高通量、覆盖病原微生物范围广的特点,在重症中枢神经系统感染的应用中得到广泛关注。本文综述mNGS测序发展历程及其在重症中枢神经系统感染中的应用进展,为疾病的精准诊断与治疗提供理论依据。

【关键词】 宏基因组; 基因检测; 中枢神经系统感染; 综述

Research progress on metagenomic next-generation sequencing in diagnosis of severe central nervous system infection

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【Abstract】 The mortality rate of severe central nervous system infection is high. Early identifying pathogens and giving targeted antibiotics are critical to reduce the mortality rate. Traditional pathogen detection technologies are difficult to meet clinical requirements due to technical limitations. Recently, metagenomic next-generation sequencing (mNGS) has received widespread attention in the infectious field due to its efficiency, high throughput and wide coverage of microorganisms. This article reviews the development of mNGS and its application in severe central nervous system infection, so as to provide a more powerful guarantee for accurate diagnosis and treatment of severe central nervous system infection.

【Key words】 Metagenome; Genetic testing; Central nervous system infections; Review

Conflicts of interest: none declared

中枢神经系统感染是细菌、真菌、病毒和寄生虫等病原体引发的颅内感染性疾病,主要包括感染性脑炎、脑膜炎、脊髓炎和脑脓肿等^[1],可导致癫痫发作、脑积水和局灶性神经功能缺损等并发症^[2],部分可合并意识障碍、急性呼吸衰竭、休克或多器官功能障碍等严重并发症,须转入重症监护病房(ICU),此类患者通常为重症中枢神经系统感染^[3]。重症中枢神经系统感染高病死率的主要原因为无法及时识别病原体,使得疾病早期无法予以针对性抗生素治疗,因此缩短病原体识别时间是降低病死

率的关键。由于病原微生物培养、聚合酶链反应(PCR)、免疫分析等传统病原学检测技术存在操作繁琐、检测时间长、检出率低、难以识别罕见病原体等问题,无法满足重症中枢神经系统感染相关病原体的检测要求,亟待研发新的快速、敏感、可靠的病原学诊断方法。近年来,宏基因组第二代测序技术(mNGS)因其快速、高通量、覆盖病原微生物范围广的特点,在重症中枢神经系统感染病原体检测中获得广泛关注^[4]。mNGS测序是一种直接对感染部位生物样本DNA或RNA进行高通量测序的技术,与传统病原学检测技术相比具有诸多优势^[5]。本文拟综述mNGS测序发展历程及其在重症中枢神经系统感染中的应用进展,以为重症中枢神经系统感染性疾病的精准诊断与治疗提供更有力的保障。

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一、宏基因组第二代测序技术发展历程

第一代基因测序技术因成本高、速度慢、通量低等问题无法满足临床需求,21世纪初完成的人类基因组计划极大地推动基因测序技术的发展,第二代测序技术(NGS)应运而生^[6]。NGS测序是一种高通量测序技术,可同时对数百万个DNA片段进行测序,从而达到分析整个基因组、外显子组、转录组和表观基因组之目的^[7],其中,mNGS测序无需培养,可直接通过对生物样本中所有微生物DNA或RNA平行扩增和测序,并与数据库中序列信息对比分析,以识别微生物种类^[8]。2005年,美国454生命科学公司发布全球首台第二代基因测序仪,标志着NGS测序正式开启商业化进程^[9-10]。2008年,美国感染与免疫学家Gustavo Palacios采用mNGS测序在1例肾脏移植术后患者脑脊液中检出星状病毒,是mNGS测序首次应用于中枢神经系统感染领域^[11]。2014年,Wilson等^[12]对1例传统病原学检测均呈阴性但反复发热的严重免疫缺陷综合征合并脑炎患儿行脑脊液mNGS测序,成功检出钩端螺旋体基因,提示与传统病原学检测技术相比,mNGS测序在中枢神经系统感染的诊断中具有较大优势。2019年,Miller等^[13]创建首套适用于中枢神经系统感染病原体检测的mNGS测序流程,并获得《临床实验室改进法案修正案》的正式认证。中国于2016年引入mNGS测序,并于2021年发布《中枢神经系统感染性疾病脑脊液宏基因组学第二代测序应用专家共识》^[14-15]。截至目前,国内多项前瞻性和回顾性研究证实mNGS测序可有效提高中枢神经系统感染患者脑脊液病原体检出率,在临床诊断方面具有较大应用潜力^[16-20]。

二、宏基因组第二代测序技术在重症中枢神经系统感染中的应用

重症中枢神经系统感染具有发病快、病程进展迅速、病死率高的特点,及时且精准识别病原体可为患者争取更多治疗时间,降低病死率,提高生活质量。mNGS测序对病原体实施无偏倚筛查,可检测出罕见、新发病原体,因此对疾病的早期的病原体识别具有重要意义^[21-22]。重症中枢神经系统感染患者根据是否存在免疫缺陷分为免疫缺陷型患者和免疫正常型患者,前者主要为免疫系统和血脑屏障未发育成熟的新生儿、接受化疗或免疫抑制剂治疗、长期激素治疗、血液系统恶性肿瘤、实体器官移植、遗传性或获得性免疫缺陷患者^[23-24]。

1. 宏基因组第二代测序技术在免疫缺陷型重症中枢神经系统感染中的应用 中枢神经系统感染新生儿因免疫系统和血脑屏障尚未发育成熟,极易进展为重症中枢神经系统感染^[24-25]。Ge等^[26]收集101份神经科重症监护病房(NICU)住院治疗的疑似中枢神经系统感染新生儿的脑脊液标本,分别行传统检验(脑脊液常规、生化、培养、涂片和单纯疱疹病毒PCR反应)和mNGS测序,结果显示,mNGS测序较传统病原学检测的检出率更高[19.80%(20/101)对4.95%(5/101), $P=0.030$];20例mNGS测序阳性患儿共检出11种病原微生物,包括8种细菌和3种病毒,其中1种为罕见人型支原体,而传统病原学检测仅检出4种病原微生物;此外,他们还发现,mNGS测序在已接受抗生素治疗的新生儿中具有更明显的优势,63例应用抗生素的患儿mNGS测序检出率显著高于传统病原学检测[26.98%(17/63)对6.34%(4/63), $P=0.002$]。同种异体造血干细胞(HSCs)患者是重症中枢神经系统感染的高危人群,发病率约15%,多发生于移植后6个月内^[27]。移植前预处理药物和移植物抗宿主病(GVHD)预防药物的毒性可以导致同种异体造血干细胞移植术后患者免疫功能低下,但感染早期临床症状不明显且易被其他症状掩盖,早期诊断困难,易进展为重症中枢神经系统感染^[28]。Qu等^[29]共收集15份异体造血干细胞移植术后继发感染患儿的脑脊液样本,发现11例确诊为重症中枢神经系统感染的患儿中,mNGS测序可识别出10种病原微生物,而传统病原学检测仅可识别出2种,mNGS测序检出率显著高于传统病原学检测(10/11对2/11, $P=0.002$)。Zhang等^[30]的研究共纳入15例异体造血干细胞移植术后继发重症中枢神经系统感染患者,mNGS测序检出13例病毒感染、6例细菌感染、5例真菌感染,而定量聚合酶链反应(qPCR)技术仅检出7例病毒感染,提示mNGS测序敏感性较高。mNGS测序还可用于实体器官移植术后免疫缺陷患者继发中枢神经系统罕见病原体感染的诊断。Wang等^[31]报告1例56岁男性肝脏移植术患者,术后予以他克莫司联合西罗莫司免疫抑制治疗,术后第17天出现头痛、间歇性癫痫发作和意识障碍,脑脊液mNGS测序人类疱疹病毒6B型(HHV-6B)阳性,及时予以更昔洛韦抗病毒治疗,预后良好,且未出现神经功能缺损,提示对于免疫抑制患者发生罕见病原体致重症中枢神经系统感染时,mNGS测序可辅助临床早期诊断、及时

治疗,改善患者预后。人类免疫缺陷病毒(HIV)感染患者因免疫缺陷,常发生多重感染或罕见感染,重症中枢神经系统感染是晚期死亡的主要原因^[32]。Deng等^[33]分别采用传统病原学检测和mNGS测序对48例伴重症中枢神经系统感染的获得性免疫缺陷综合征(AIDS,亦称艾滋病)患者行脑脊液检测,结果显示,mNGS测序检出率高于传统病原学检测[75%(36/48)对52.08%(25/48), $P=0.020$];两种方法共检出77种病原体,mNGS测序病原体检出率显著高于传统病原学检测[94.81%(73/77)对42.86%(33/77), $P<0.001$]。Fang等^[34]报告1例艾滋病患者继发爆发性中枢神经系统水痘-带状疱疹病毒(VZV)感染患者,未出现典型VZV相关皮疹,入院后24小时内迅速进展为深昏迷,予经验性抗感染治疗(头孢曲松、利奈唑胺、伏立康唑、更昔洛韦)后病情无改善,于入院第5天死亡,尸检脑脊液mNGS测序VZV阳性,PCR和Sanger测序进一步证实VZV感染,提示对于临床表现不典型的重症神经系统感染患者,应尽早行mNGS测序。

2. 宏基因组第二代测序技术在免疫正常型重症中枢神经系统感染中的应用 重症开放性颅脑创伤、脑肿瘤、脑血管病手术后患者因血脑屏障破坏或者长时间留置脑室外或腰大池引流管,发生重症中枢神经系统感染的风险极高^[35],此类患者可能同时合并蛛网膜下腔出血、脑血管痉挛、其他部位感染、药物过敏、癫痫持续状态(SE)、交感神经异常兴奋综合征等,难以通过发热或神经系统症状判断是否存在中枢神经系统感染。脑室内出血(IVH)患者可继发化学性脑膜炎和感染性脑膜炎^[36-37],但此类患者脑脊液白细胞计数增加、蛋白定量升高、葡萄糖水平降低,难以单纯通过脑脊液常规和生化判断是否合并中枢神经系统感染,脑脊液病原微生物培养时间较长且抗感染治疗后检出率降低,易延误诊断与治疗,导致严重中枢神经系统并发症,mNGS测序受抗生素影响较小,检测周期较短(1~2天),可无偏倚筛查所有可能的病原微生物并检测耐药基因,因此,动态监测mNGS序列数可以作为评价抗感染治疗效果的方法^[38]。为评估mNGS测序在脑室外引流术或腰大池引流术后继发脑室脑膜炎的诊断价值,首都医科大学附属北京天坛医院张国军教授研究团队进行一项为期7个月的前瞻性研究,共纳入102份脑室外或腰大池引流管留置时间>24小时的神经外科术后患者的脑脊液标本,其中,脑

室脑膜炎的诊断标准为脑脊液病原微生物培养阳性且白细胞计数 $>250\times10^6/L$,疑似脑室脑膜炎的诊断标准为脑脊液白细胞计数 $>1000\times10^6/L$ (嗜中性粒细胞比例 $>50\%$)或嗜中性粒细胞 $>250\times10^6/L$,结果显示,49例疑似脑室脑膜炎患者mNGS测序检出率为44.90%(22/49),而传统病原学检测均呈阴性;22例mNGS测序阳性的疑似脑室脑膜炎患者中10例(45.45%)临床表现符合mNGS测序检出病原体的临床特征,分别为3例检出表皮葡萄球菌、科氏葡萄球菌、产色葡萄球菌,4例检出鲍曼不动杆菌、铜绿假单胞菌、约翰逊不动杆菌、神户肠杆菌,1例检出铜绿假单胞菌,1例检出黏质沙雷菌,1例检出鸡肠球菌,均予以针对性抗感染治疗,预后较好^[20]。mNGS测序的检测时间 <48 小时,短于病原微生物培养时间;46例mNGS测序阳性患者中12例(26.09%)为假阳性,检出病原体均为医院环境常见微生物种类,且由于预先应用抗生素对病原体的影响,mNGS测序阴性并不代表无感染可能^[20]。Tian等^[39]报告1例15岁第四脑室室膜瘤复发患儿,肿瘤切除术后第11天出现高热伴脑脊液白细胞计数增加、葡萄糖降低、乳酸升高,予以经验性万古霉素和美罗培南抗感染治疗后,白细胞计数仍进行性增加,脑脊液mNGS测序检出具有碳青霉烯类耐药基因(*blaOXA-23*和*blaOXA-51*)的鲍曼不动杆菌,调整药物为替加环素和多黏菌素后症状明显好转。一项纳入99例开颅手术后中枢神经系统感染患者的回顾性研究显示,年龄 $\geqslant 53$ 岁、Glasgow昏迷量表(GCS)评分 $\leqslant 8$ 分、脑脊液葡萄糖/血糖比值 $\leqslant 0.23$ 、手术次数 $\geqslant 2$ 次、呼吸机机械通气、未行mNGS测序是预后不良的主要危险因素,且脑脊液mNGS测序检出率显著高于病原微生物培养[52.94%(18/34)对26.47%(9/34), $P=0.033$]^[40]。Yang等^[41]对4例合并呼吸衰竭的重症脑炎患者行脑脊液mNGS测序,伪狂犬病毒阳性,首次证实伪狂犬病毒可诱发人类脑炎,提示对于病因不明且经验性治疗效果欠佳的重症中枢神经系统感染患者,建议早期行脑脊液mNGS测序^[14]。

三、宏基因组第二代测序技术在重症中枢神经系统感染应用中的局限性

尽管与传统病原学检测技术相比,mNGS测序已展现出诸多优势(表1)^[5],但仍存在一定局限^[42]。(1)可能存在假阴性结果:脑脊液mNGS测序阴性无法排除重症中枢神经系统感染,标本采集、保存和

表1 不同病原体检测技术对比^[5]**Table 1. Comparison of the testing tools used to diagnose infectious diseases^[5]**

检测技术	检测原理	优点	缺点	检出时间
病原微生物培养	病原体在特定培养基中繁殖	成本低,操作简便	特定病原体只能在相应培养基生长,操作繁琐,检测时间长,敏感性易受抗生素治疗影响,部分病原体对培养环境要求较高	周级别
病原体抗原抗体测定	抗体或抗原与样本中病原体抗原或抗体特异结合	单次处理样品多,可发现急性感染或既往感染,性价比较高,操作简便	敏感性和特异性低,相近抗原存在交叉反应	小时级别
PCR	靶核酸扩增	定量准确,快速高效,一次可检测多种病原体	易受扩增偏差影响,成本高于病原微生物培养,无法区分活细胞和死细胞,无法区分感染和定植	秒-分钟级别
靶向测序	对基因组中特定基因序列进行测序以识别病原体	高通量,敏感性高	只适用于特定基因片段测序,难以用于新病原体检测,扩增偏差影响,无法区分活细胞和死细胞,无法区分感染和定植	天级别
mNGS	对样本中所有DNA和(或)RNA进行测序	高通量,快速高效、覆盖病原微生物范围广,直接检测生物样本无需培养、可预测细菌或病毒耐药性	检测成本高,操作步骤较传统病原学检测复杂,操作过程中样本污染风险较高,无法区分活细胞和死细胞,无法区分感染和定植	天级别

PCR, polymerase chain reaction; mNGS, metagenomic next-generation sequencing,宏基因组第二代测序技术

运输不当,以及应用抗生素等因素均可导致假阴性结果^[23,43];此外,结核分枝杆菌、曲霉菌、诺卡菌等因其结构或生长特点导致核酸提取困难,检出序列数较少,可能被当作背景菌去除^[22,44]。(2)可能出现假阳性结果:由于mNGS测序检出的微生物可能来自无致病性的正常菌群,目前对此类背景微生物的界定尚无统一标准,测序结果的判读有待进一步规范,应结合病情、免疫状态、病原体特点解读mNGS测序结果,以判断是污染、定植、潜伏感染或活动性感染^[19,45]。(3)检测成本较高:重症中枢神经系统感染患者的家庭经济负担通常较重,限制mNGS测序的临床应用。

综上所述,近年mNGS测序技术迅速发展,可对重症中枢神经系统感染进行快速且无偏倚的病原体筛查,尤其在检测低病原微生物载量样本、识别罕见病原体以及检测多重感染等方面,较传统病原学检测具有明显的技术优势。虽然mNGS测序应用于重症神经系统感染病原学诊断的时间较短,但已展现出巨大潜力和优势,显著提高患者生存率。随着mNGS测序技术的不断完善与发展,有望实现重症中枢神经系统感染性疾病的精准诊断与治疗。

利益冲突 无

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· 小词典 ·

中英文对照名词词汇(一)

- γ-氨基丁酸 γ-aminobutyric acid(GABA)
- c-Jun氨基末端激酶 c-Jun N-terminal kinase(JNK)
- 白细胞介素-6 interleukin-6(IL-6)
- 半高全宽 full width half maximum(FWHM)
- 暴露和反应预防 exposure and response prevention(ERP)
- 表面肌电图 surface electromyography(sEMG)
- 病原相关分子模式 pathogen-associated molecular pattern(PAMP)
- 哺乳动物雷帕霉素靶蛋白 mammalian target of rapamycin(mTOR)
- 叉头状转录因子盒蛋白O1 forkhead box O1(FoxO1)
- 重复时间 repetition time(TR)
- 抽动秽语综合征 Tourette's syndrome(TS)
- 抽动症综合行为干预 comprehensive behavioral intervention for tics(CBIT)
- 出血后脑积水 posthemorrhagic hydrocephalus(PHH)
- 词语流畅性测验 Verbal Fluency Test(VFT)
- 磁敏感加权成像 susceptibility-weighted imaging(SWI)
- 磁敏感血管征 susceptibility vessel sign(SVS)
- 大脑中动脉 middle cerebral artery(MCA)
- 单胺氧化酶抑制剂 monoamine oxidase inhibitor(MAOI)
- 蛋白激酶B protein kinase B(PKB)
[丝氨酸/苏氨酸激酶 serine/threonine kinase(Akt)]
- 蛋白酶激活受体 proteinase activated receptors(PARs)
- G蛋白门控内向整流钾离子通道2 G protein-coupled inwardly-rectifying potassium channels 2 (GIRK2)
- G蛋白耦联受体 G protein-coupled receptor(GPCR)
- 癫痫持续状态 status epilepticus(SE)
- β-淀粉样蛋白 amyloid β-protein(Aβ)
- 动脉自旋标记 arterial spin labeling(ASL)
- 动态对比增强MRI dynamic contrast-enhanced MRI(DCE-MRI)
- 多巴胺转运蛋白 dopamine transporter(DAT)
- 多导睡眠图 polysomnography(PSG)
- 多能干细胞 pluripotent stem cells(PSCs)
- 多系统萎缩 multiple system atrophy(MSA)
- 多腺苷二磷酸核糖聚合酶1 poly (ADP-ribose) polymerase-1(PARP-1)
- 多学科诊疗模式 multi-disciplinary team(MDT)
- 二肽基肽酶-4 dipeptidyl peptidase-4(DPP-4)
- 翻转角 flip angle(FA)
- 反转时间 inversion time(TI)
- 泛素-蛋白酶体系统 ubiquitin-proteasome system(UPS)
- 非惊厥性癫痫持续状态 non-convulsive status epilepticus(NCSE)
- 非快速眼动睡眠期 non-rapid eye movement(NREM)
- 符号数字模式测验 Symbol Digit Modalities Test(SDMT)
- 改良Rankin量表 modified Rankin Scale(mRS)
- 甘油醛-3-磷酸 glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate(GAP)