

• 综述 •

IGF2BP3 在肝癌中的研究进展^{*}杨宛林¹,叶宇璐¹,宁登冲¹,叶 霞¹,蓝金艳¹,易廷庄^{2△}

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[摘要] 胰岛素样生长因子 2 mRNA 结合蛋白 3(IGF2BP3)也称为 IMP3,是一种在原始胚胎中表达而在成人中低表达或不表达的癌胚抗原。近期研究表明,IGF2BP3 在多种肿瘤中的表达异常,尤其是在肝癌中,不仅影响肿瘤的增殖、侵袭、转移等生物学行为,还在调控铁死亡、塑造免疫微环境、介导化疗耐药等方面发挥重要作用。此外,IGF2BP3 与肝癌患者的预后也明显相关,为肝癌的诊治提供了新的视角。但 IGF2BP3 在肝癌中的作用机制及其临床意义尚未完全阐明。该文总结了近年来 IGF2BP3 在肝癌发生、发展中的研究进展,并系统性地综述了其在肝癌中的恶性进展、免疫浸润、耐药性等方面的作用。

[关键词] 肝肿瘤; 胰岛素样生长因子 2 mRNA 结合蛋白 3; 癌胚抗原; 免疫浸润; 综述**DOI:**10.3969/j.issn.1009-5519.2025.05.034 **中图法分类号:**R735.7**文章编号:**1009-5519(2025)05-1214-05**文献标识码:**AResearch progress of IGF2BP3 in liver cancer^{*}YANG Wanlin¹,YE Yulu¹,NING Dengchong¹,YE Xia¹,LAN Jinyan¹,YI Tingzhuang^{2△}(1. Graduate School , Youjiang Medical University For Nationalities , Baise , Guangxi
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[Abstract] Insulin-like Growth Factor 2 mRNA Binding Protein 3 (IGF2BP3), also known as IMP3, is a cancer embryonic antigen that is expressed during early embryonic development but is expressed at low levels or absent in adults. Recent studies have shown that IGF2BP3 is abnormally expressed in various tumors, particularly in hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC). It not only influences tumor biological behaviors such as proliferation, invasion, and metastasis, but also plays a significant role in regulating ferroptosis, shaping the immune microenvironment, and mediating chemotherapy resistance. Moreover, IGF2BP3 is closely associated with the prognosis of HCC patients, providing new insights into the diagnosis and treatment of liver cancer. However, the precise mechanisms of IGF2BP3 in HCC and its clinical significance remain to be fully elucidated. This article summarizes the recent research progress on IGF2BP3 in the occurrence and development of HCC, and systematically reviews its role in malignant progression, immune infiltration, and drug resistance in liver cancer.

[Key words] Liver neoplasms; Insulin-like growth factor 2 mRNA binding protein 3; Carcinoembryonic antigen; Immune infiltration; Review

原发性肝癌在全球癌症发病率中排第 6 位,同时,也是导致癌症患者死亡的第三大原因。原发性肝癌主要包括肝细胞癌(HCC)、肝内胆管癌、混合型肝癌 3 种类型,HCC 占据了原发性肝癌的绝大部分(75%~85%),是最常见的亚型^[1]。目前,药物治疗、经皮消融、经动脉化疗栓塞、嵌合抗原受体工程 T 淋巴细胞免疫治疗、肝癌切除术、肝移植等多种治疗模式均不同程度地抑制了肝癌进展,延长了患者生存

期^[2-3]。分子靶向药物,如索拉非尼、仑伐替尼已成为肝癌一线治疗的重要选择,贝伐珠单抗联合阿替珠单抗的免疫治疗方案近年来显示出明显的临床获益,成为推荐治疗晚期肝癌患者的一线方案之一。然而,肝癌患者病死率仍居高不下,且易产生耐药性^[4-6],为肝癌治疗带来了新的挑战。因此,进一步明确肝癌的分子机制对寻找新的治疗方向至关重要。

在探索肝癌分子机制的过程中胰岛素样生长因

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子家族的调控蛋白逐渐引起了广泛关注^[7]。作为 RNA 结合蛋白家族的重要成员,胰岛素样生长因子 2 mRNA 结合蛋白(IGF2BP)家族参与了多种癌症中 mRNA 的稳定性、剪接、翻译和降解过程,深刻影响了肿瘤的发生、发展^[8]。IGF2BP 家族成员中的 IGF2BP3 因在肿瘤中的异常高表达及其与肿瘤生物学行为的密切相关性逐渐成为研究的重点^[9]。IGF2BP3 是一种 RNA 结合蛋白,参与了调控 mRNA 的稳定性、剪接、翻译和降解过程,在肿瘤细胞增殖、侵袭、迁移、耐药等生物学过程中具有关键作用^[10-12]。近年来,随着分子生物学的迅猛发展,人们对肿瘤分子机制的认识日益加深。IGF2BP3 作为在多种肿瘤中表达异常的基因,在肝癌中的作用机制和临床意义逐渐成为研究热点^[13]。众多研究揭示了 IGF2BP3 在肝癌中的重要作用,包括对肝癌细胞生物学行为的调控,与铁死亡分子、干性标志物的相关性,以及对肿瘤微环境的影响等^[14-17]。现综合分析 IGF2BP3 在肝癌中的作用机制,探讨其作为潜在治疗靶点的可能性,为未来的研究方向提供参考依据。

1 IGF2BP3 基因的结构及功能

1.1 IGF2BP3 的结构特征 IGF2BP3 是一种含有 580 个氨基酸的癌胎 RNA 结合蛋白,具有 2 个 N 端 RNA 识别基序——核糖核苷酸还原酶 M1 和核糖核苷酸还原酶 M2,4 个 C 端核内不均一核糖蛋白 K 同源(KH)结构域——KH1~KH4 和 2 个链接区域——L1 和 L2^[12]。IGF2BP3 基因位于 7p 11.5 染色体上,克隆的 IGF2BP3 互补 DNA 包含 1 个 250 碱基对的 5'-非翻译区(UTR),1 个 1 740 碱基对的开放阅读框和 1 个 2 168 碱基对的 3'-UTR。IGF2BP3 富含 AU 的 3' UTR,覆盖 8 个 AUUUA 和 4 个 AUUUUA 重复基序^[18]。IGF2BP3 存在于细胞质中,以颗粒状结构积聚,通常在核周区域富集^[19]。

1.2 IGF2BP3 在胚胎发育中的核心作用 IGF2BP3 在胚胎发育过程中发挥了至关重要的作用。早期研究表明,在人和小鼠胚胎发生的早期阶段 IGF2BP3 在上皮细胞、肌肉、胎盘中高表达^[20]。在成年小鼠中 IGF2BP3 在肺、脾脏、肌肉、肠道、胰腺、肾脏、大脑、卵巢、睾丸中均表达^[21-22]。在成人组织中 IGF2BP3 可表达在胎盘、淋巴结、扁桃体、睾丸等部位^[11]。更为重要的是根据对非洲爪蟾的同源物——RNA 结合蛋白 vg1。有研究表明,IGF2BP3 在神经发育中具有重要作用^[22]。类似地在斑马鱼中 IGF2BP3 对胚胎发育至关重要,并能维持母体 RNA 的稳定性^[23]。

1.3 IGF2BP3 在肿瘤发生、发展中的多重作用 近年来,有研究证实,IGF2BP3 在多种肿瘤中的异常高表达与肿瘤的发生、发展和侵袭高度相关^[24]。有研究表明,IGF2BP3 可能以哺乳动物雷帕霉素靶蛋白控制的方式促进 IGF2 的合成^[25-27]。虽然 IGF2BP3 在控

制 IGF2 mRNA 翻译中的作用仍存在矛盾,但最近的研究发现,在人类癌症中上调该蛋白可能通过促进 IGF2 的表达促进肿瘤生长;此外,IGF2BP3 还通过与细胞核中的核内不均一核糖蛋白 M 协同作用,导致细胞周期蛋白表达增强,从而促进肿瘤细胞增殖,并促进了肿瘤细胞的免疫逃逸^[28-29]。还有研究发现,IGF2BP3 的异常高表达与患者预后也密切相关^[30]。表明 IGF2BP3 不仅参与了胚胎发育过程中 mRNA 的稳定性、细胞生长及迁移,还对癌症的诊治也具有重要意义。

2 IGF2BP3 在肝癌增殖、侵袭、迁移、凋亡中的作用机制

2.1 IGF2BP3 调控肝癌细胞增殖与凋亡 IGF2BP3 通过结合并稳定某些关键 mRNA,如细胞周期蛋白依赖性激酶和细胞周期蛋白促进这些分子的翻译,从而明显加速细胞周期进程,增强肝癌细胞的增殖能力^[28,31]。同时,IGF2BP3 通过抑制促凋亡基因的表达,削弱细胞内凋亡信号,增强肿瘤细胞的生存优势。体外研究表明,IGF2BP3 通过与凋亡相关 mRNA 的 3'-UTR 区域结合,调节 mRNA 稳定性并下调其表达,从而明显抑制肿瘤细胞的凋亡^[32]。这种通过 RNA 结合的方式削弱细胞内的凋亡通路进一步增强了肿瘤细胞的存活能力。这些功能使 IGF2BP3 成为肝癌增殖与凋亡的核心调控因子之一。

2.2 IGF2BP3 促进肝癌细胞迁移与侵袭 IGF2BP3 通过调控上皮-间质转化相关基因的表达明显增强肝癌细胞的迁移与侵袭能力^[33]。有研究表明,IGF2BP3 通过抑制上皮钙黏蛋白的表达、上调波形蛋白等间质标志物的表达加速肝癌细胞从上皮表型向侵袭性表型转变。这一作用是肝癌细胞获得高度侵袭性的主要分子基础^[34]。此外,YAN 等^[35] 研究表明,下调 IGF2BP3 可明显减轻环状 RNA-0098823 过表达引起的肝癌细胞过度迁移、侵袭、凋亡等。

2.3 IGF2BP3 通过非编码 RNA 的调控网络的关系

非编码 RNA(微小 RNA、长非编码 RNA 和环状 RNA)通过与 IGF2BP3 的相互作用共同参与了肝癌的发生、发展,微小 RNA-129-1 作为肿瘤抑制因子通过靶向 IGF2BP3 和丝裂原活化蛋白激酶 1 明显延缓肝癌细胞的 G₁~S 期转变,从而抑制其增殖和发展^[36-37]。长链非编码 RNA00467 通过增强肿瘤坏死因子受体相关因子 5 mRNA 的稳定性,明显促进肝癌细胞的增殖与转移^[38]。环状 RNA-0098823 与 IGF2BP3 相互作用,增强动力蛋白相关蛋白 1 的稳定性,从而调控肝癌细胞的迁移、侵袭、凋亡等^[35]。

3 IGF2BP3 在肝癌免疫调节中的核心作用

3.1 IGF2BP3 调控免疫细胞浸润与功能 肝癌的免疫微环境在其发生、发展、治疗抵抗方面具有至关重要的作用。多项研究证实,IGF2BP3 的高表达与多种

免疫细胞(B 淋巴细胞、CD4⁺ T 淋巴细胞、CD8⁺ T 淋巴细胞、巨噬细胞、中性粒细胞和树突状细胞)的浸润呈正相关^[13]。然而这种免疫细胞浸润并非普遍带来抗肿瘤效果,反而可能通过塑造免疫抑制性微环境促进肿瘤进展。有研究表明,IGF2BP3 通过与 C-C 基序趋化因子配体 5、转化生长因子-β1(TGF-β1)mRNA 结合,增强这些分子的稳定性和表达,诱导巨噬细胞向 M2 型极化,从而抑制 CD8⁺ T 淋巴细胞活性,并削弱抗肿瘤免疫反应^[16,39]。

3.2 IGF2BP3 介导的免疫逃逸机制 越来越多的研究表明,N6-腺苷酸甲基化(m6A)修饰可通过调节免疫细胞浸润、促瘤炎症、免疫抑制、免疫监视、抗肿瘤免疫应答等方式改变多种肿瘤的免疫应答^[40]。IGF2BP3 作为一种关键的 m6A 阅读器不仅在肿瘤细胞的生长、转移中发挥作用,还可能通过影响肿瘤微环境和免疫细胞功能促进免疫逃逸。IGF2BP3 通过 m6A 依赖性机制上调免疫抑制分子的表达,直接削弱 CD8⁺ T 淋巴细胞的杀伤能力,从而赋予肿瘤细胞更强的生存优势^[39,41]。此外,IGF2BP3 增强 C-C 基序趋化因子配体 5、TGF-β1 的表达,进一步促进免疫抑制性细胞 M2 型巨噬细胞、调节性 T 淋巴细胞的募集,强化肝癌免疫逃逸能力^[16]。

4 IGF2BP3 参与肝癌的干性调节

4.1 IGF2BP3 通过 m6A 依赖性机制调控肝癌干性 肿瘤干细胞是指癌细胞的干细胞样表型,在肝癌的发生、发展中发挥了重要作用^[42]。有研究表明,m6A 修饰能通过调节与肿瘤干性相关的基因 mRNA 的表达水平,进而影响肝癌干细胞的发展和维持^[43]。IGF2BP3 作为 m6A 阅读蛋白可通过与特定的 m6A 修饰的 mRNA 结合,影响肝癌干细胞的自我更新和多能性,这种作用可能通过调节关键的干细胞标志物和信号通路来实现^[44]。有研究发现,敲低 IGF2BP3 会明显抑制肝癌细胞的增殖、集落形成和侵袭能力,同时,IGF2BP3 与干性标志物——转录因子 2 的表达水平呈正相关,进一步表明其在肝癌干细胞特性维持中的重要性^[13]。IGF2BP3 通过 m6A 依赖性增强真核翻译起始因子 5B mRNA 的稳定性,促进肝癌干细胞表型的维持,揭示了 IGF2BP3 在 m6A 调控网络中的中心作用^[45]。

4.2 IGF2BP3 通过协同非编码 RNA 调控肝癌干性 IGF2BP3 通过与非编码 RNA 的相互作用共同调控肝癌细胞的干性特性。有研究表明,IGF2BP3 通过抑制微小 RNA 的靶向降解,增强高迁移率族蛋白 A2 的表达,从而与高迁移率族蛋白 A2 协同促进肝癌细胞的侵袭和迁移能力^[46]。IGF2BP3 还可通过与非编码 RNA 协作增强细胞黏附分子 44 等干性相关分子的稳定性^[47]。有研究表明,在肝癌组织中 IGF2BP3 与细胞黏附分子 44 的表达呈正相关,协同

促进肝癌细胞的干性表型^[13]。

4.3 乙型肝炎病毒(HBV)感染与 IGF2BP3 调控网络的关系 慢性 HBV 感染是肝癌的重要致病因素。有研究发现,HBV-pgRNA 可通过上调 IGF2BP3 的表达明显增强肝癌细胞的干性特性,不仅揭示了 HBV 感染与肝癌干性调控的分子关联,还进一步强调了 IGF2BP3 在 HBV 相关肝癌中的特殊作用^[48]。

5 IGF2BP3 参与肝癌铁死亡的调节

IGF2BP3 调控肝癌铁死亡的分子机制为 IGF2BP3 通过 m6A 依赖性机制调控多种铁死亡关键因子的表达水平,在肝癌细胞中形成对铁死亡的复杂调控网络。IGF2BP3 通过结合核因子 E2 相关因子 2(NRF2)mRNA 的 m6A 位点明显增强其稳定性和翻译水平,从而上调 NRF2 蛋白的表达。这一过程赋予了肝癌细胞更强的抗氧化能力,减少了脂质过氧化损伤,明显抑制铁死亡的发生^[15]。有研究表明,IGF2BP3 通过直接或间接调控长链脂肪酸合成酶 4、溶质载体家族 1 成员 5 参与了调控肝癌细胞的铁死亡。IGF2BP3 与溶质载体家族 1 成员 5 呈正相关,与抗氧化分子 NFE2L2(NRF2)呈负相关,进一步表明其在铁死亡调控中的双重作用^[49]。

6 IGF2BP3 在肝癌耐药性中的作用机制与治疗潜力

6.1 IGF2BP3 通过 m6A 依赖性机制调控肝癌耐药性 近年来,肝癌的治疗手段不断进步,包括手术、化疗、靶向治疗等,但肝癌细胞的耐药性问题仍是制约疗效的关键因素^[50]。IGF2BP3 作为一种在多种肿瘤中表达异常的蛋白,近年来的研究表明,与肿瘤细胞的耐药性密切相关。IGF2BP3 能以 m6A 阅读蛋白的身份稳定某些促耐药相关基因的 mRNA,明显增强肿瘤细胞对化疗药物的耐受性。有研究表明,IGF2BP3 结合 NRF2 mRNA 的 m6A 修饰位点增强其稳定性和翻译效率,从而上调 NRF2 蛋白水平。这一过程赋予了肝癌细胞更强的抗氧化能力,降低了化疗药物——索拉非尼诱导的铁死亡效应^[15]。IGF2BP3 通过 m6A 依赖性机制稳定表皮生成因子受体 mRNA,促进肿瘤细胞生长,并在结直肠癌中介导西妥昔单抗的耐药性^[51]。这一机制可能在肝癌耐药中同样适用。

6.2 IGF2BP3 通过调控代谢重编程增强化疗耐药性 IGF2BP3 能通过调控肿瘤细胞的代谢重编程增强化疗耐药性。有研究表明,IGF2BP3 能通过细胞色素 C 氧化酶亚基 6B2 介导线粒体能量重编程,从而促进非小细胞肺癌对表皮生长因子受体-酪氨酸激酶抑制剂的耐药性^[45]。CD133⁺ 肿瘤干细胞亚群表现出较高的化疗耐药性^[52],而 IGF2BP3 被发现与肿瘤干性标志物的高表达明显相关。通过抑制 CD133⁺ 细胞比例可明显增强这些细胞对索拉非尼的化疗响应^[52-53]。相关研究发现,IGF2BP3 作为肿瘤启动性干细胞中的功能癌基因,当沉默 IGF2BP3 时可恢复 TGF-β 信号,消

除肿瘤启动性干细胞对肝癌的化学耐药^[54]。有研究证实,靶向 IGF2BP3 基因的小干扰 RNA 负载的脂质体原位异种移植模型靶向 IGF2BP3 可有效恢复仑伐替尼对 HCC 的敏感性。这些发现强调了代谢重编程和表观遗传调控的联系,并提示 IGF2BP3 可能为克服 HCC 的仑伐替尼耐药提供新的策略^[55]。

7 小结与展望

肝癌是一个早期诊断率低、复发率高且预后差的疾病。目前,在肝癌的诊断方面仍缺乏特异性生物标志物;在治疗方面肝癌对放化疗均不敏感,靶向治疗、免疫治疗的疗效尚有待于进一步提高。IGF2BP3 作为一个在肝癌发展中具有多重作用的分子已成为肝癌研究领域的一个热点。IGF2BP3 在肝癌的恶性进展中扮演了重要角色,IGF2BP3 作为一个多功能的 RNA 结合蛋白通过影响 mRNA 的稳定性和翻译效率参与了调控肝癌细胞的多种生物学行为。IGF2BP3 不仅对肝癌铁死亡、免疫微环境等产生深远的影响,在其恶性表型中也具有重要作用。IGF2BP3 表达水平与肝癌患者的预后紧密相关,有望成为一个有潜力的预后生物标志物和治疗靶点。尽管目前针对 IGF2BP3 的治疗策略仍处于初步阶段,但已有的研究结论为未来的临床应用提供了坚实的基础。然而 IGF2BP3 在肝癌中的作用机制仍复杂且尚未完全清楚,其在肿瘤微环境、肿瘤代谢方面的认识仍十分有限。因此,需更多的研究阐明其在肿瘤发展中的具体角色。此外,IGF2BP3 作为治疗靶点的安全性、有效性也需在今后的临床试验中进一步验证。随着对 IGF2BP3 功能和作用机制的深入了解,以及新药物和治疗方法的开发期待 IGF2BP3 相关的治疗策略能尽快用于临床,为肝癌患者带来新的希望。

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